

NEWS ROUNDUP

Infant deaths at record low level

Infant and perinatal deaths in Scotland have fallen to their lowest rate yet. However, cancer and heart disease account for more than half of all deaths, according to the annual report of the Registrar General for Scotland, published today.

There were 8.5 infant deaths for every 1,000 births, slightly less than in 1986. The perinatal mortality rate was 8.9 per 1,000 and stillbirths were 1.3 per 1,000. Heart disease accounted for 34 per cent of deaths and cancer for 24 per cent.

The report shows the population of Scotland fell by 8,884 to 5,112,129 in the 12 months to June 30 last year, continuing a trend first noted in the mid-1970s. Divorce fell by 5.2 per cent to 12,373, compared with a record 13,373 in 1985.

Registrar General Scotland's Annual Report for 1987 (Stationery Office, £14.50).

● The General Medical Council has approved of tests on aspirin to determine whether it can help recovery from heart attack and reduce the risk of miscarriage in pregnancy.

Theory over killing

A driving instructor who died after being stabbed in the throat may have been killed by the husband of one of his women pupils, police believe. Keith Slater, aged 35, of Hesse, near Hull, Humberside, was attacked on the doorstep of his home on Saturday as his wife looked on helplessly. Mrs Slater hauled her husband into the sitting room but he died in her arms as the attacker fled. Inspector Maggie Wright, of Humberside Police, said: "We will be speaking to anyone who knew him or had anything to do with him, including the pupils at the driving school."

South Africa protest

Britain should enforce a oil, coal, iron and steel embargo and ban all direct flights to South Africa, according to an SDP policy document, published today. The document, to be debated at next month's party conference, says Britain should join with the United States, Canada, France and West Germany to try to end apartheid. A ban on flights "would mean that South Africa could fly out to the rest of the world only through black Africa". The document also demanded the immediate release of Mr Nelson Mandela, the jailed African National Congress leader.

Children die in blaze

Two children died in a blaze at their home early yesterday in spite of a rescue attempt by neighbours fighting heat and choking smoke. David Swan, aged two, and his sister Talia, aged 15 months, perished in the fire at Washington, Tyne and Wear. "Half the street was trying to dive in and get the children," police said. The parents, Mr David Swan and his wife Julie, were saved, along with their other two children.

Hard-left 'threat'

Senior moderates in the trade union movement fear hard-left political groups have targeted their organisations for infiltration to influence Labour Party policy making. The development is viewed with concern by supporters of Mr Neil Kinnock, Labour Party leader, as unions now have 40 per cent of the vote when parliamentary candidates are chosen. One moderate warned that the hard-left members could not be expelled for belonging to political factions.

'Royal' price boom

Prices of some homes in Dummer, Hampshire, where the Duchess of York's father Major Ronald Ferguson lives, are rising £1,000 a week because of the royal connection, estate agents claim. The village sub-post office is for sale at £250,000. One agent said: "Any property in that area which comes on the market is always immediately snapped up. Clients are always keen on living in a village with a royal connection."

SAS man to face weapons charge

By Howard Foster

An SAS armoured based at an Army camp in Hampshire is to be court-martialled on a charge of possessing a weapon illegally.

The news comes after confirmation by the Ministry of Defence that three soldiers are to be disciplined for allegedly having three civilian pistols.

The investigation began in 1987. A number of SAS and former SAS soldiers were questioned.

A military source said the investigators uncovered a scheme to alter the identification numbers of weapons which were ultimately destined for use by civilians, including former soldiers.

At one stage, the investigators were told of the movement of small arms in diplomatic bags and a link with a plot to kidnap members of the African National Council in Britain.

Charges against four men of conspiring to kidnap ANC leaders were dropped at Lambeth Magistrates' Court in London last October.

The source also said that the Army appeared anxious to play down the findings of the investigation and that a number of key figures would escape prosecution either in a military or civil court. Others would appear before courts-martial on lesser charges.

The ministry refused last night to confirm whether the three soldiers served with the SAS or to give their identities.

No service weapons or ammunition are involved, a spokesman said. The court-martial are likely to be within the next two months.

The three are understood to have been charged after the Army received a report that an unlicensed civilian pistol was in the possession of soldiers.

It is still not clear whether there is any connection between the forthcoming court-martial and a report at the weekend that a secret surveillance operation had been carried out after an arms cache was discovered in a house in Croydon, south London.

The weapons found, according to the report, included grenades, machine-gun clips and tear gas as well as "specialist" equipment which was traced back to the SAS.

A service weapon was recovered from a member of the Yardie drug-running organisation. Broadwater Farm estate in north London, according to the report.

Biggest job-training scheme ready for take-off

By John Spicer
Employment Affairs
Correspondent

The world's biggest and most comprehensive employment training scheme is being launched this week, aimed at filling 700,000 unfilled job vacancies and reducing further the falling total of jobs.

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment, describes the programme, which is costing £1.5 billion a year, as the most important and ambitious devised in this or any other industrialized country.

It is launched a week before the trade unions decide at the TUC Congress whether to support it. But Mr Fowler says it will go ahead with or without union support.

The TUC General Council has given "conditional" support to Employment Training, as it is known, but some of the larger unions, including TGWU, Nupie and Nalco, have said they will not co-

operate. They say the quality of training is not high enough, that the programme is underfunded and fear that employers may use trainees as a low-paid workforce.

They also fear that the Government will eventually bring in the American system of "workfare", under which people refusing to join training schemes lose social benefits, although Mr Fowler denies there are such plans.

Reports that the new chairman of the Training Commission, Mr Brian Wolfson, thinks that system "might be necessary" have also been denied.

Employment Training, devised by the Training Commission, takes in dozens of previous schemes and is intended to train 600,000 long-term unemployed a year. Priority goes to people aged 18 to 24 years who have been out of work between six and 12 months, and those aged 18-50 who have been jobless for more than two years.

The scheme coincides with the start of a big reduction in young people joining the labour market over the next

decade. Mr Fowler said: "During the next six years the number of young people under the age of 24 available for work will have fallen by well over a million — a reduction of something like one-fifth compared with the position today."

The notices of "help wanted" could become as familiar as the "no vacancies" signs were in the recession. They could spell just as much bad news for the economy, unless employers grab the chance now and take a radical new look at the way tomorrow's workforce is going to be made up.

Mr Fowler said companies which had recruited from the 16 to 19-year age group would find the competition for their services increasingly tough. Some employers were seeing hopes of early expansion hampered by skill shortages.

The Government is bringing pressure to bear on employers to spend more on re-training those people in work with "redundant skills".

Employment Training will feature training agents and managers who will spend two or three days assessing unemployed people wanting to take advantage of the system.

Aspiring professionals can take heart: Tony Adams of Arsenal and England, Paul Gascoigne, Paul Stewart and Mitchell Thomas of Spurs, Gary Pallister of Middlesbrough, and seven members of the Manchester City first team squad, all began their football careers as YTS trainees.

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Over the past months training agents — including employers, voluntary organizations and local authorities — have been registering and yesterday the Department of Employment said it had 280,000 of the initial 300,000 training places ready to be taken up.

Trainees will receive £10-£12 a week on top of unemployment or other benefit during training, plus travelling and equipment costs. Payments for lodgings and child care help will be made where necessary and all trainees completing a course will be eligible for a tax-free bonus up to £200.

Children hurt as funfair attack mars Bank holiday

By Andrew Moger

Violence ruined the start of the Bank holiday weekend for trippers who had sought tranquillity in rural areas and found police chasing trouble-makers.

In one of the worst clashes a gang of youths left children screaming by derailing several carriages of a miniature train as it took tourists round a seaside fun park.

Ambulances and police went to the Lodmoor Country Park at Weymouth, Dorset, as the bruised and battered passengers were helped to their feet.

No one was seriously hurt although about 10 people were thrown from the carriages. As the train chugged round the park the gang of jeering youths was sitting in the rear carriage and rocked the carriages off the rails.

As a BBC documentary sounds a warning that families who turn to funfairs could be putting their children in danger, the Confederation of British Industry suggested an unorthodox means of escaping seaside violence, gloomy weather and travel delays.

The answer could be a visit to the local factory. As tourism drives go it may sound like a busman's holiday idea for plant workers, but the confederation wants more companies to open their gates.

Mr John Owens, its deputy director general, said British Nuclear Fuels had shown the way with its visits to Sellafield.

"Others making anything from car to candlesticks and woolsens to whisky are recognizing the importance of industrial tourism," he said. "By next August Bank holiday thousands of people could be attracted to visiting a factory."

"Now it is time for more capital goods companies to follow suit."

Fears that all-day drinking could lead to increased violence were highlighted when a 4pm fight at The Downsland public house, Hove, on Saturday left two brothers with facial injuries, one with a partially severed nose.

One needed 20 stitches in a head wound. A man had been arrested.

Officers in Cornwall and Devon were especially stretched. In the Torbay area alone there were 43 incidents, mostly associated with alcohol, outside public houses and nightclubs within a 16-hour spell.

17 bombings in extradition riots



Burnt-out vehicles litter the Falls Road in West Belfast after nearly 24 hours of rioting.

By David Sapsted
and Ronald Faux

A backlash of rioting, bombings and shootings in Belfast and Londonderry at the weekend came after the extradition of IRA terrorist Robert Russell from the Irish Republic.

Security forces were fully stretched to deal with 24 shootings, 17 bombings, 56 hijackings, 193 attacks on soldiers and police and dozens of hoax bomb alerts.

Sixteen were injured, among them 11 police officers, one soldier and a boy aged two.

The catalogue of mayhem began with three incidents in Londonderry on Saturday.

9.50am: Lorry hijacked by two masked men, driven to Bank of Ireland in Spencer Road. A bomb exploded at 10.25am.

10.10am: Hijacked van taken to New Foyle Bridge. Bomb caused little damage.

10.50am: Bus hijacked on Raccourse Road. Police intercept and arrest man.

11.05am: Cars travelling along Belfast's West Link attacked by young petrol bombers.

Rioting and bombs in west Belfast and Londonderry.

12 noon: Controlled explosion of suspect car bomb at Lisburn Road RUC station, Belfast.

12.20pm: Car bomb explodes near Springfield Road police station, Belfast.

12.30-1pm: Van bomb explodes outside Belfast City Hall causing little damage. Stores evacuated at Park Centre shopping precinct in West Belfast before car bomb explodes. Burning hijacked vehicles and petrol bomb attacks leave a pall of smoke covering the west of the city.

1.15pm: Hijacked van intercepted short of Grosvenor Road police station, Belfast. Exploded on waste ground.

2pm: Belfast International Airport at Aldergrove closed after hijacked van with suspect bomb was parked outside main terminal.

2.45pm: Soldier injured in blast bomb attack on Army patrol in Donegal Road, West Belfast. Mobs hijack five more buses, two lorries and two vans and set them ablaze.

4pm: Army defuses car bomb outside Fort George, Londonderry.

4.15pm: Amid reports of more suspect car bombs leading to the closure of the M1, shots reported in the Ballymurphy area of Belfast.

5pm: Drogue bomb attack on police car in west Belfast. Barricade set up by youths in Springfield Road and shots reported in New Lodge area.

5.30pm: RUC Land Rover hit by drogue bomb in West Belfast as three security patrols come under fire. Boy aged two wounded by sniper in Broadway area of West Belfast. Police return fire and one gunman believed hit.

6.15pm: Petrol bomb attack on New Barnsley police station, Belfast.

7.45pm: Beer keg bomb found alongside RUC checkpoint in West Belfast.

8.45pm: Second petrol bomb attack on New Barnsley.

9pm: Car bomb at Broadway roundabout, West Belfast.

9.15pm: Blast bomb explodes at North Howard Street Army base in north Belfast.

9.40pm: Another barricade set up in Springfield Road.

10pm: A dozen petrol bombs thrown at New Barnsley police station. Shots later fired at the same building.

10.30pm: Rioting and petrol bombs in New Lodge area of Belfast. Police fire plastic bullets.

11pm: Police fire plastic bullets at rioters in Ardoyne bus depot, Belfast after the driver is doused in petrol. Police use more plastic bullets on youths after coming under attack by petrol bombs and missiles in Brompton Park.

11.30pm: RUC patrol is petrol bombed at Unity Flats, Belfast.

12 midnight-lam: More rioting in West Belfast. Foot patrol comes under fire in Antrim Road and police fire plastic bullets at rival gangs in Donegal Road.

2.30am: Man shot in neck in Short Strand, east Belfast. Police were last night investigating a suspected terrorist bobby trap left on an Army firing range at Portlathine on the north Antrim coast. A calf trod on it.

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Boy aged two shot in the face by IRA sniper

By David Sapsted and Ronald Faux

Michael Mahon, aged two and with no known connection to the security forces, became another victim of IRA terrorism at the weekend.

A sniper's bullet smashed into the back of the family saloon when it was parked in West Belfast, injuring Michael in the jaw.

As bullets intended for an Army patrol sprayed the family home in Broadway, Michael, bleeding profusely, was pulled from the car by his mother.

"We were all screaming. All we could do was crawl to the car and drag him out. He was lying on the ground with blood

gushing. I was sure he was dead", Mrs Annette Mahon said.

With ambulances unable to get to the area because of widespread riots and hijackings, the family had to keep under cover for 10 minutes before being able to drive Michael to Queen Victoria Hospital.

His wound proved to be superficial and he was not detained, though doctors fear his hearing could have been damaged.

Mrs Mahon said the family had been sitting out to buy clothes for Michael's older sister when the shooting started. "I thought it would never stop. When it did we were all hysterical: none of us was fit

to drive so I got a neighbour to take us to hospital."

"God, I just could not believe it when they said it was not too serious. My baby could have been killed. I would not like to say what I think of the people who did this."

An RUC officer said later: "This is happening in areas where the IRA claim to represent the people. It is their own people they are making suffer."

"It demonstrates once again that they have no respect for the lives of anyone, young or old. This is another example that Sinn Féin and the IRA are really the ones responsible for the oppression."

Sky television bars unions and offers contracts

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

A new era of broadcasting industrial relations will be ushered in by Sky Television when it becomes the first non-union television station in Britain later this year.

The satellite venture, owned by Mr Rupert Murdoch, will not recognize unions, including the Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians and the National Union of Journalists, at its new headquarters in Osterley, west London.

In another first, the station staff will be offered contracts, probably up to three years long, rather than being full-time employees.

The radical non-union plan, unveiled to Sky's 138 staff last week, was disclosed at the Edinburgh International Television Festival at the weekend. It could have far-reaching consequences for other areas of broadcasting.

The television industry has been blighted for years by appalling industrial relations

difficulties and disputes culminating in the strike at TV-am, which led to the dismissal of 232 technicians' union members.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher last year described independent television as the "last bastion" of restrictive working practices. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission is investigating working practices in the film and television industries.

Mr Jim Styles, managing director of Sky Television, told the Edinburgh festival: "We will be a non-union television channel."

British Satellite Broadcasting, which is due to launch three channels in just over a year's time, is also seeking to depart from the traditional practice of broadcasting industrial relations.

Mr Bob Hunter, managing director of the station's NOW channel, said BSB wanted an agreement with a single union, containing a no-strike pledge and a promise of flexibility.

"We want everybody pulling together. We would like to feel by building up this rap-

port between different sections we are one big group and we will work better."

Sky was not indulging in union bashing and he said contract staff could remain a member of a union if they wished. The company would be able to plan ahead with greater certainty and he believed the absence of a union shop would result in more pride among the station staff.

In return for removing union rights, the company plans to set up a special communication line from top executives to the shop floor.

"We will make sure that happens. It is a guarantee I have told myself and I can give to my staff. They will be involved in meetings and there will be an open-door policy at Sky Television."

Mr Alan Sapper, general secretary of the ACTT, last night accused Mr Styles of an "inept" approach towards handling industrial relations. In spite of the union chief's protests, he appeared to be re-

signed to Sky Television becoming the first non-union television station.

A combination of the Government's industrial relations legislation, the threat of unemployment, and the deregulation of broadcasting meant the staff at Sky were "in a difficult position", Mr Sapper said.

Independent television's coverage of adult education, religion, documentaries and children's programming is likely to suffer over the next decade as the face of British broadcasting changes.

Mr Greg Dyke, London Weekend Television's programming chief, told the festival.

The BBC's decision last week to "postpone" the screening of a play about Northern Ireland was taken for security service reasons rather than the present violence in the province, Mr Ray Brennan, the play's author, said.

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Euro deadlock, page 7

Seal virus vaccine is found

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hospital at Pieterburen, two sick seals are actually recovering from the virus after receiving a series of injections in their swimming muscles. The mammals — a two-year-old female named "Boy" and a seven-year-old female whom they have called "Berendje" — are showing signs of improvement after being brought to the institute in a critical state more than a month ago.

Officially Mrs t'Hart and her colleagues are still keeping the cause of the disease a secret until a press conference to be held this afternoon in the little village church at Pieterburen. But Dutch scientists are saying that it is an animal virus. Mrs t'Hart confirmed that her clinic, together with three other institutions, is to embark on a project to determine the effect of chemical pollution on the immunology of mammals.

"I am very frightened that what we are going to say at our press conference will make people sleep in peace," she

said. "But we can only help seals in captivity, not in the wild, and that's not a cause for relaxation. The next project we have here is to find out the damage done by pollution on the immune system."

Her own clinic, together with the Dutch Royal Institute for Nature Protection, the Cambridge Sea Mammal Research Unit and the Dutch National Institute of Public Health and Environmental Protection are to embark this week on the project for defining the effect of pollution on seal immunology.

Mrs t'Hart's seal crèche — which currently operates with a grant of about £30,000 from the European Community — is dedicated to the preservation of the mammals. Pictures of seals adorn carpets, curtains and tea-clothes at the clinic; even the weather vane is carved in the shape of a seal and Mrs t'Hart is currently keeping one healthy grey seal — whom she has named "Eric" — in her own domestic bath, washing it down with tap water after giving it a series of

injections which, she hopes, will have immunized the creature against the disease.

But elsewhere in the building, seals lie in exhaustion in the last stages of life. Some are breathing heavily and coughing, too weak to move across their small metal pens, partly covered with damp towels. Their last resting place is currently a refrigerated truck which stands in the centre of open farmland; their corpses are to be used for further scientific experiment.

Latest Dutch figures show that more than 3,000 seals have been found dead on the nearby coast of Schleswig-Holstein, north Germany, and 700 in just a small area of the Dutch coast the latter figure representing 80 per cent of the seal community in the district.

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Management board is suspended in Broadmoor review

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A big shake-up at Broadmoor Special Hospital, now affected by a bitter industrial dispute, has led to the suspension of the local management board. Details are given today by Mind, the national association for mental health, which accuses the Government of secrecy over plans for the special hospitals.

Full management responsibilities for Broadmoor, previously split between the board and the Department of Health, will be vested from Thursday in a task force, on which both will be represented.

One of the members will be Mr Jimmy Savile, the radio and television celebrity, who is on the existing board.

A new member, Dr Louis Warnants, of the Department of Health, will take over temporarily some of the responsibilities of Dr John Hamilton, the medical director, who is transferring to the Department of Health, pending the appointment of an acting medical director.

The arrangement is expected to continue until next April when general managers for each of the four special hospitals, including Broadmoor, will be appointed.

The hospital management team no longer exists, Mind says. It comprised the heads of the main departments at Broadmoor, including the medical director, head of nursing and the administrator.

Mind yesterday called for the immediate publication of the Health Advisory Service

report on Broadmoor, which is believed to be partly responsible for the changes.

The report is now on the desk of Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Secretary of State for Health, and is believed to be extremely critical of management and attitudes of nursing staff at the hospital in Crowthorne, Berkshire.

Mr William Bingley, Mind's legal director, said: "It is clear that major changes in the running of the special hospitals are now being contemplated and acted upon."

"It is unfortunate for patients and their families and friends as well as staff that they are taking place subject to the shroud of secrecy that has bedevilled special hospitals for so long."

"The Health Advisory Service report on the hospital is a key document in the debate about the future of the special hospitals and it is important that it is published as soon as possible together with a clear statement from the Government about its policy for the future of the special hospitals."

There are four special hospitals - Broadmoor, Park Lane, Moss Side and Rampton - and all were managed centrally by the former DHSS until local boards were appointed. The boards were able to exercise, on behalf of the Secretary of State, functions which included determination of priorities for use of manpower, resources and revenue and capital funds; professional services for care and treatment and the investigation of complaints. The Secretary of State retained the power to make admission decisions and to appoint staff.

Now the boards are to be wound up and replaced with locally a general manager and nationally with a single central special health authority.

The Department of Health told *The Times* that Dr Hamilton's move was at his own request. There was no secrecy about the changes which were due to take place anyway, regardless of the dispute.

Meanwhile, "grave concern" is expressed by Mind about the infringement of patients' rights at Broadmoor Special Hospital during the industrial dispute there, in a letter to Mr Clarke.

"We understand that the industrial action is resulting in a significant number of patients being kept in seclusion for long periods."

"The very serious effect on patients of such seclusion is well documented," Mr William Bingley, Mind's legal director, said.

"We are now receiving reports that the dispute is seriously eroding care."

Mr Bingley told *The Times*: "The Department of Health has got to realize that if it's going to run a 520-bedded hospital like Broadmoor then it must have sufficient staff."

The Prison Officers' Association must actively consider whether its daytime overtime ban is an acceptable way of pursuing its claims.

House costs feed discontent

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Tomorrow Mr and Mrs Christopher Telling, both of them Broadmoor nurses, go for an interview for a new job on the Isle of Wight.

They cannot afford to stay at Broadmoor Special Hospital, in Crowthorne, Berkshire, Mr Telling said. Together their gross salaries total £23,000 a year.

"It isn't bad by North of England standards. But three times the joint salary gives £69,000. Here you can get a one-bedroom flat for that."

He was referring to a phenomenon that has helped to cause a bitter dispute at the hospital. Staff cannot earn enough, they say, to get an adequate mortgage to buy a house. The Tellings have three children. Mr Telling said: "I have no chance of buying a three-bedroom house here for under £100,000."

"On the Isle of Wight we would be looking at about £50,000 for a three-bedroom house, which we could afford."

Mr Telling is a registered mental nurse and his wife, Helen, an enrolled mental nurse. Mrs Telling first took a post at the hospital 12 years ago and has worked for a total of seven years. The remainder of that time was spent at home with her children.

Mr Telling, aged 36, has been at Broadmoor for 13 years. "We met before I came here and my wife came to the hospital on our being married."

Mrs Telling works in a special area with disturbed inmates from the female wing. Her husband believes that she would have an easier time working in the mental hospital on the Isle of Wight.

He has been assaulted eight times and his wife has suffered one serious attack, in which she was "smashed to the ground", and several minor ones.

Promotion prospects at Broadmoor have been diminished by the reduction of charge nurse posts, Mr Telling said. When the employers were told of falling morale and a high cost of living, staff development was introduced.

These courses made staff keener to leave because manpower shortages at Broadmoor prevented them from using the latest techniques, he claimed.

Reforms urged to curb prison unrest

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Prison disturbances and unrest will continue unless urgent action is taken by the Government, the Prison Reform Trust says in a manifesto for jail peace published today.

Unnecessary restrictions on prisoners' rights should be removed. Censorship of letters should be abolished for all but top-security prisoners and potential escapees, the trust says.

It says all prisoners should have access to a telephone. They should have the right to wear their own clothes, as in women's prisons, and to be addressed by their name and not by a prison number. Visiting rights and entitlement to home leave should be greatly extended.

The trust calls for the establishment of a prisoners' ombudsman and the reduction of maximum penalties. Imprisonment for fine and maintenance default should be abolished. Life imprisonment should be the maximum, not the mandatory penalty for murder.

The manifesto says: "We seek a sentencing structure in which custody would be used a great deal less than at present and where sentences of imprisonment which are imprudent would be replaced by fines, probation or community work."

Striking prison officers at Holloway jail, north London, are refusing to return to work until inmates are searched closely for weapons such as knives and scissors.

The two sides are to continue talks tomorrow in a bid to agree on a return-to-work tomorrow at the prison, which houses 464 women prisoners. Also at issue are staff rotas.

possession would be shorter". A consequence would be the abolition of parole, enabling prisoners to plan for their release.

The trust says a courts inspectorate should be established to assess the managerial, administrative and judicial policies of magistrates and the crown courts. A principal function of the inspectorate would be the reviewing of discrepancies in sentencing.

Sentencing decisions should be subject to ethnic monitoring at local and national level.

"Racial bias in sentencing is a particularly worrying feature of the criminal justice system", the trust says.

It says that almost 90 per cent of the rise in prisoners between 1980 and 1986 was the result of the increase in prisoners on remand.

Noise pollution

'Party patrol' in search of quiet night

The public houses were emptying in Ealing, west London, on Saturday night as a light-coloured sedan pulled quietly away from the mock-gothic town hall.

Inside the car were Miss Alison Thomas, of Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan, Mr Andrew Thomas, a zoology graduate, of Bristol, a telephone and a big pile of files.

Their mission, as officials of the Ealing Borough Council pollution control department, was to find and render inoffensive those who contaminated the quiet neighbourhoods by unduly discharging unreasonable amounts of noise.

Every Friday and Saturday night for the past 18 months, eight teams of council employees have taken it in turns to patrol the borough between 11pm and 4am investigating the sources of noise.

Mr Thomas said: "It all started when we had a lot of complaints, especially from tower blocks on the large council estates, about big parties going on into the early hours, not just ordinary parties but real stormers. A lot were charging admission fees which were going on for two or three nights. They happened every weekend in some places, and disturbed hundreds of people every time."

"The police don't really have much power to deal with the culprits because making a noise is not a criminal offence. All they can do is warn them or, at worst, charge them with causing a breach of the peace. But it does come under the Control of Pollution Act, and enforcing that is our business."

The patrol warns noise makers first, then checks again some time later. If the noise is still bad, a notice to stop may be issued. Only as a last resort will a court summons be issued.

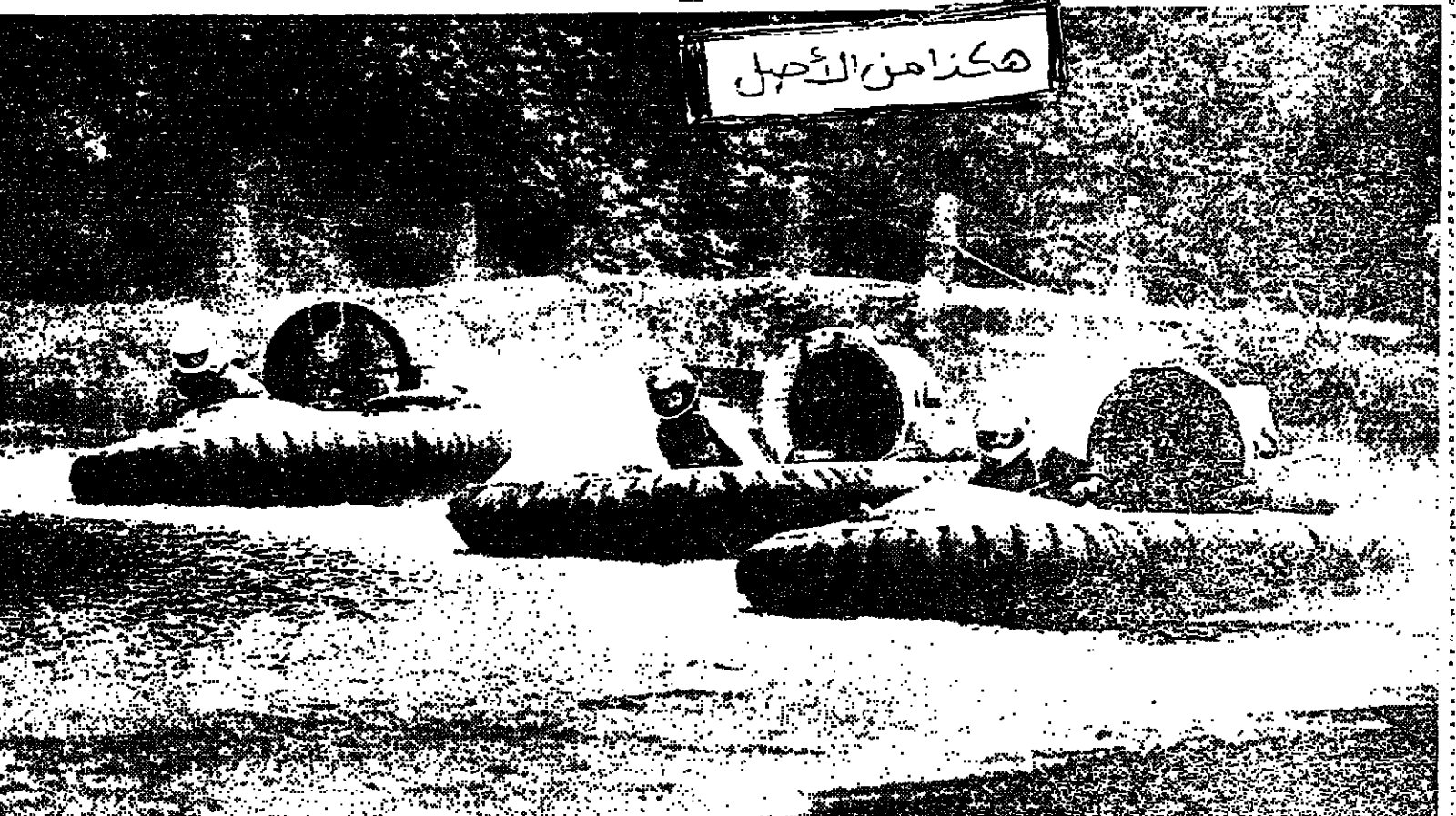
Since the inception of the scheme, one of six in London, six cases only have come to court. All resulted in fines of up to £500. Another six will come before magistrates shortly. As the evening progresses, there are about a dozen calls, passed on by the council switchboard which operates a complaint line advertised in local newspapers.

A birthday party in a tower block is the first stop. Another is to the premises of the Assyrian Society of Great Britain, where traditional music is playing.

Mr Thomas said complaints were not directed only at parties. The previous night they had gone to a factory stone-washing jeans in the early hours. A few weeks ago, it was a newspaper warehouse where leaders were yelling and crashing about while a radio blared.

He said violence against the council employees was rare. If threatened, the police were happy to help out a patrol that had reduced their workload dramatically. The lack of professional parties on Saturday night indicated its success. Mr Thomas said: "We are not really here to persecute the ordinary party-goer, just to remind them they do have neighbours."

Drivers race for supremacy on the lake



Competitors in the Formula Two race at the 1988 European Hovercraft Championships at Stanford Hall, near Rugby, Warwickshire, yesterday. Centre is the Kemp team craft from Bingham, Nottinghamshire. Mrs Brenda Kemp is secretary of The Hoverclub of Great Britain which organized the three-day championships, and Mr Jeremy Kemp is the schools representative. The light hovercraft are capable of moving at speeds of up to 60mph and the championships, which began on Saturday, include Formula One and Formula Three races and events for juniors. International events were held on Saturday and yesterday and today is reserved for national races. Prizes will be presented at the close of racing at 5.30pm. (Photograph: Peter Trievnor)

GCSE accusations

Exam chief to investigate 'rigging'

By David Tytler, Education Editor

Allegations that some GCSE results were rigged to give pupils better grades than they deserved were described yesterday as "upsetting and disappointing" by Mr Dennis Hatfield, chairman of the Joint Council for the GCSE.

He added: "I cannot really believe it could have happened."

Mr Hatfield will begin inquiries among the four English examining boards tomorrow into claims from an anonymous chief examiner that one of the boards decided in advance how many of the 100,000 candidates in the so far unnamed subject would be given the top A to C grades to ensure the new examination could be favourably compared with the old O-level standards.

Provisional results published last week, which were enthusiastically welcomed by both teachers and Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, showed an overall 2 per cent increase in top grades compared with O-level results in 1986.

Mr Hatfield said yesterday: "I shall certainly be trying to find out what lies behind this and whether anybody knows where it is supposed to have happened."

The Department of Education and Science said it would wait to hear from the boards and the joint council before making any comment.

The chief examiner claimed that at a meeting to decide grade boundaries the representative of the examining group said it had already been decided that a fixed, relatively high percentage of candidates should get the top three grades, roughly equivalent to O-level passes.

Mr Colin Vickerman, joint secretary of the Northern Examining Association, said: "If such an incident did take place it could not have happened under our procedures". A similar stand was taken by the Southern Examining Group. The two other groups - the Midlands and East Anglia - have so far refused to comment.

There has been concern throughout the year that there would be political pressure on the examining groups to ensure the GCSE would be perceived as successful and that borderline candidates would be given the benefit of the doubt.

The Government and the examiners have always been worried about adverse publicity and made plans to ensure that there should be as much good news about the GCSE as possible.

The *Times* has obtained a copy of the minutes of a meeting last March between representatives of the joint council and officials of the DES. These show how much importance was attached to public acceptance of the new examination.

In advice to the boards and the DES, the meeting recommended that during June "positive noises should be made about the good standard of exam papers - and that exceptions, if there are any, are seen to be exceptions to this high standard".

A further minute of the meeting, which looked forward to the month immediately before the publication of the results, pointed out that there would be criticisms of standards and of some papers either being too difficult or too easy.

Recording that "there will be repercussions from the first results" the meeting recommended the following action to be taken in the period from the publication of results until Christmas:

- The DES and the examining groups should identify positive points they should publicize as appropriate.
- The DES will publicize further resources for GCSE.
- Industrialists should be invited to give good publicity to good GCSE recruits.
- In November, the DES will publicize positive aspects of the inspectors' report on the first two years of GCSE.

One examiner maintained: "I am sure the C grades have been massaged."

"The difference between C and D could be crucial, deciding whether or not a child goes on to A-level or in the case of school leavers, the quality of jobs available to them."

"The truth is, though, that until we see the A-level results in two years' time nobody will know whether standards have risen or fallen, or remained the same."

Oxford appeal targets US and Tokyo

By Sam Kiley, Universities Reporter

Education is expensive and cannot be achieved on the cheap, Dr Henry Drucker, Oxford University's director of development, says.

Next month he is launching a multi-million pound fund-raising appeal for the university.

The campaign opens a New York office of 17 from the end of next year, and will have a team of three in Tokyo.

American universities have a long tradition of raising funds. Princeton alone has a New York staff of 200.

Some of Oxford's colleges are among the most wealthy institutions in the country, though their actual worth is a secret. More than a hundred posts are unfilled in the university.

The colleges have agreed to increase their contribution to the funding of teaching posts "as an expression of the need" to maintain standards. Dr Drucker, an American academic and formerly lecturer in politics at Edinburgh University, is not looking for funds from everyone. "We plan to get 80 per cent of the money from 20 per cent of the donors", he said. "They stand to get something in return."

As the number of graduates begins to fall there will be increasing competition for the "powerful stream of highly articulate and educated" people produced by Oxford.

By endowing an academic post, Dr Drucker said, a company would gain privileged access to undergraduates. Young high-fliers could be steered in their direction by college dons. "A bit like M15, only they do not pay us", Dr Drucker said.

In addition, he added, the university is a "powerful research chemistry and physics schools in the country."

"Everyone knows that the money is going to be made in the future by research - a major grant to Oxford will secure a stake in that future."

The Campaign for Oxford is run from the high-technology university administration offices in Wellington Square. An "alumni database" stores the names and addresses of 116,000 Oxonians, cross referring them to *Who's Who* and an index of the heads of companies and other institutions.

Mrs Margaret Smith, spokeswoman for the British Long-Distance Swimming Association, said that fitness and safety standards would be discussed.

She said: "We will have a close look to check our members are operating to the best standards available."

Mrs Smith criticized the speed with which French police brought the charge against the Brazilian trainer. "It seems very early to have charged her, before anyone is sure why Miss Agondi died."

Mrs Audrey Scott, secretary of the Channel Swimmers Association, said it was too early to gauge the consequences of the death and subsequent charge.

Trust threatens to withdraw £8,000 school gift

By Our Education Editor

A state school stands to lose several thousand pounds a year in gifts unless a charitable trust is guaranteed the right to nominate governors.

The links between the Neale-Wade Community College, a mixed comprehensive in March, Cambridgeshire, and the March Education Fund go back to 1696. Last year the fund gave the college £6,689, likely which is likely to rise to nearly £8,000 in the coming year. Mr George Brewin, chairman of the trustees, said: "We will keep a very close watch on the policies of the school and the decisions taken by the new governors."

"If we do not approve of them, then we will reconsider our position. We are an educational fund and can give our money to any educational project."

The fund sold its remaining interests in the school to the county council in 1983, when the deeds of sale guaranteed four seats on the governing body to trustees of the fund in perpetuity.

However, the 1986 Education Act reduces the number of governors and gives more power to parents.

At Neale-Wade, there will be 19 governors instead of the original 24, made up of five parents, five appointed by the local education authority, two teachers, the head teacher and six co-opted members.

Mr Terence Cole, clerk to the trustees, said: "We have been told by the local education authority not to worry, as we would be given some of the co-opted seats. But there can no guarantee of this."

"Why should we give money if we have no say over the way it is to be used?"

Michael Jackson concert

Police probe after fans left stranded

Scotland Yard detectives are investigating a company that left Michael Jackson followers stranded across England, it was disclosed yesterday.

Hundreds of youngsters paid £32.50 for coach and concert tickets to see the American pop star - but got nothing for their money. Coaches never arrived at pick-up points including Bristol, Swindon, Southampton, Chelmsford and Oxford.

Receipts were meant to be exchanged for tickets for Saturday's Wembley Stadium concert on board the buses. Police took hundred of statements yesterday and fear the Jackson followers could have lost between £100,000 and £250,000 after replying to advertisements in local newspapers placed by the firm, Capital Promotions.

Coach firms said Capital Promotions had failed to pay deposits for vehicles it apparently intended to hire. Mr Mike Walker, regional director of Badgerline buses in Bristol, said: "This firm wanted coaches from us, but we cancelled their booking when they repeatedly failed to pay a deposit. We have nothing to do with Capital."

Hundreds of teenagers and their parents descended on Bristol coach station, only to be told they were no coaches by waiting policemen.

Among them were Mrs Lorraine Brice, from Bedminster, Bristol, who planned to take Kerry Crawshaw, a neighbour's child, to the Wembley concert as a tenth birthday treat. She had paid £162 for five tickets.

Mrs Brice, aged 27, said: "Somebody has got a lot to answer for. We are disgusted that this could happen. I want to know why we have been ripped off."

Sarah Hodgson, aged 15, from Whitechurch, near Bristol, said: "It has cost me a month's pocket money to pay for this and now I can't go."

The investigation is to be headed by Wembley CID, although regional police will also be assisting. Inspector Donald Rees of Bristol police said: "There are a lot of disgruntled people and we can only sympathize. We are looking to see if any criminal offence has been committed."

Police are anxious to interview a Mr Nick Forbes, said to be the director of Capital Promotions. The company used its base at Metro House, Wembley, simply as a mailing address.

Yesterday Metro House staff were on the receiving end of threats from scores of Jackson followers. Mr Maurice of Johnston, aged 30, managing director of M and T Services, which acted as an answering phone service for Capital Promotions said: "We have taken so much abuse it's unbelievable."

"They are threatening to come round and kill us, but we have nothing to do with Capital. We have been taken in as much as anyone else - we are owed more than £1,000."

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1. _____ 2. _____

1. Year of registration _____ 2. Year of registration _____

1. Company Car ☐ Private ☐ 2. Company Car ☐ Private ☐

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Glasnost makes Soviet television censor 'redundant'

By Richard Evans, Media Editor

The high-ranking Soviet official in charge of censoring Russian television for 18 years is today almost out of work, *glasnost* having swept away old-style restrictions which previously kept him so busy.

However, the shock of live, unscripted television and being able to report truthfully for the first time about what is happening in their country has proved too much for a number of Soviet journalists.

Some have suffered heart attacks during live programmes, others have undergone mental and psychological changes.

Previously, an interview on a sensitive topic such as nuclear weapons would not have been screened until as many as five editors and a censor had read and allowed it.

The remarkable and moving insight into the dramatic effect of

glasnost on Soviet television and journalism was revealed yesterday at the Edinburgh International Television Festival by a trio of leading broadcasters and film makers from the USSR.

Vladimir Molchanov, producer and presenter of a popular late night chat show *To and After Midnight*, said the purpose of his programme, featuring interviews with previously banned people or reports on taboo issues, was "to try to get to the millions of Soviet people whom we lost during the time of Brezhnev".

Speaking in Russian and in English, he explained he was from the generation of journalists which called itself the "children of dissent". He said: "We started our work with the Helsinki summit taking place. I very quickly understood there was no detente at all".

Journalists in the Brezhnev era either prejudiced their careers by covering subjects unpopular with the authorities, which allowed them to preserve their integrity and good name, or they behaved dishonestly and wrote about things "which did not correspond to their idea of the truth".

Mr Molchanov added: "In those years I was approached many times and asked to write about the fantastic state of Soviet psychiatric clinics. I was also asked to write critical articles about our remarkable writers like Solzhenitsyn."

"Today I am very happy that I have never done it although of course I was dishonest in some things as well."

"In any case I can say that in the 15 years of my journalistic career, for the first time I am working in earnest and I can finally tell the people what I really think."

"I know what I tell people does

not always please our leadership. Some of our bureaucrats use a cliché which says 'You are led by the masses', in which case I always answer 'We work not for the bureaucrats and the officials, but for the people and they are the masses'."

He added: "I don't want you to be left with the impression we find it very easy to work. The struggle is very serious."

Mr Molchanov's programme has included interviews with Soviet defectors, covered the Soviet Union's infamous psychiatric clinics and looked at life inside a convent.

The most enlightening was the recent meeting with the head of the main Soviet censoring body, "the person who for the last 18 years was forbidding anything he could possibly forbid. And in my programme he told all the viewers that he is

practically becoming unemployed."

Mr Molchanov also presents a live breakfast-time programme which he described as probably the most remarkable Soviet programme because of its absolute lack of censorship.

But the absence of censorship for journalists accustomed to strong controls meant that the elder generation of reporters refused to work on live TV.

He continued: "There have been some tragic moments when some journalists were taken away from heart attacks from live programmes". The remarks produced laughter from the festival audience, but Mr Molchanov added: "It's not funny. You must understand that for a long time we have been working in conditions of very severe censorship and when you are invited and told, come on folks

you are live without any censorship, then it is quite possible some people undergo mental and psychological changes."

The "greatest shock" concerning the extent of *glasnost* coincided with the recent nineteenth conference of the Communist Party. "Before the conference took place I and my colleagues were quite sure that the conflicts and different points of view that exist in the central committee of the Communist Party are taboo. We were convinced they were outside the border of *glasnost*."

But after the speeches of Boris Yeltsin, the former Moscow party leader, and Yegor Ligachev, the Kremlin hardliner, were broadcast in full, they realized they had been wrong.

"It was one of the greatest shocks for us. I had been convinced their speeches would be edited."

Tenants caught in a war of words

By David Walker
Public Administration
Correspondent

A nationwide battle for the hearts and minds of council tenants is reaching a peak as a propaganda war is waged urging them to switch landlords or face huge rent rises.

A Government Housing Bill giving tenants the right to "pick a landlord" is due to become law shortly. Even before then, a string of local authorities, mostly Conservative, have been seeking to rid themselves of their housing stock by encouraging housing associations not run for profit to take over.

Some councils fear that if they do not act now, tenants may later be persuaded to sign up with private sector landlords and the property eventually sold off for owner occupation.

In Gloucester, the tenants' federation is to complain to the Local Government Ombudsman over the way the council has handled a proposal to transfer housing.

The Conservative council is considering selling its homes to the North Housing Association, a dynamic not-for-profit group based in Newcastle upon Tyne.

It rents houses at fair and subsidised rents not just in the North-east but in the South and Midlands as well.

In Ynys Mon, the district council in Anglesey, Gwynedd, a tenants' vote recently decisively rejected a council plan to switch all its housing to a privately-run company set up by a former council official. Half of the 5,000 tenants on Anglesey's seven estates returned a form, with 92 per cent expressing a wish to stay with the council, which is controlled by Independents.

In Rochford, Essex, the Conservative council has stated its wish to transfer its housing stock and has helped to establish a housing association, disregarding opposition from some tenants.

In Salisbury, Wiltshire, debate is fierce over whether housing should be switched.

In Torbay, the Conservative council wants its housing switched to the West Country and Devon and Cornwall Housing Associations. Tenants face a 20 per cent rent rise next year unless they transfer. It said that if they switched, the housing associations would freeze rents for at least two years, and raise them only in line with inflation.

Under the existing housing finance system, housing associations can often get subsidies for buying and building housing for rent that are no longer available to councils. Under legislation likely to be introduced in the autumn, councils cannot subsidize rents from the money they take in rates: that will push up many rents considerably.

Mr William Waldegrave, the former housing minister, indicated that he favoured not-for-profit groups, especially housing associations, which the Government wants to play a much more active role in providing housing for rent.

Among associations, North Housing - its founding chairman was the father of Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment - has emerged as one of the most active. Earlier this year it joined with Consortium Developments to provide lower cost housing for rent as part of the Foxley Wood scheme in Hampshire which has been opposed by local interests who say it would spoil a green area.

MORI poll shows Labour slide

Kinnock's rating slumps as Tories surge further ahead

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock's leadership of the Labour Party is a stumbling block to a revival in its electoral fortunes, according to the latest MORI poll for *Times Newspapers*.

More people expect the economy to get worse over the next year with higher mortgage payments, but the Government is not yet paying the usual penalty for a feeling that living standards will drop.

Instead the Tories have surged to a 14 point lead over the Opposition, up by 9 points on last month, as voters' economic fears are swamped by their growing doubts over Mr Kinnock's performance.

His "satisfaction index" has slumped to a disastrous minus 31 per cent, his worst rating since he became Labour leader in October, 1983. Since May and his backtracking over defence policy, Mr Kinnock has suffered a 92 per cent swing against him, according to MORI. Even more

worryingly for Mr Kinnock, his support is crumbling in traditionally strong Labour areas.

He has lost the backing of a majority of people in the North, including Scotland, council tenants, the skilled and unskilled working class and middle class and working class trade unionists.

The MORI figures, confirming a trend established by other polls, will increase the pressure on Mr Kinnock as he prepares for the political conference season.

He will be hoping to revive his flagging fortunes with convincing performances at the TUC in Bournemouth early next month and the Labour gathering in Blackpool four weeks later.

Although Mr Peter Shore, a former Labour Cabinet minister and MP for Bethnal Green and Stepney, has described Mr Kinnock's leadership as being on trial for

the next 12 months, and some stirrings of discontent are evident in the mainstream of the parliamentary party, the Labour leader's position appears currently impregnable.

He will bury the challenge of Mr Tony Benn and the hard left at the conference and he is unlikely to be confronted with a serious rival before the next election.

However, his position could become less secure if he suffers further heavy setbacks over the winter.

Sources close to the Labour leader have sought to dismiss such poll findings on the grounds that support for the Opposition always declines when Parliament is in recess. Fieldwork for the MORI poll was conducted before the announcement of the £2.15 billion July trade deficit and the accompanying 1 per cent rise in interest rates.

Mr Kinnock will be looking for his rating to recover as the nation's purse-strings are tightened still further.

Since the Falklands conflict in 1982, MORI's index of "economic optimism" - the difference between those who believe the economy will improve and those who say it will get worse - has been closely correlated with the gap between the two main parties.

In 1983 and 1987, voters believed the good times would continue and rewarded the Conservatives with handsome election victories.

Such sentiments have evaporated this summer as the trade deficit has reached record proportions and Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has been forced to apply the brakes to the consumer boom by raising

interest rates 4½ per cent in three months.

The number of people expecting the economy to get worse over the next year has risen 4 per cent since July to 37 per cent, while only 28 per cent think it will improve.

This degree of economic pessimism should on past performance be accompanied by a revival in Labour's standing, but instead the Tories have hit 50 per cent, their highest rating for seven months.

Labour has 36 per cent, the SDLP 8 per cent and the SDP 4 per cent.

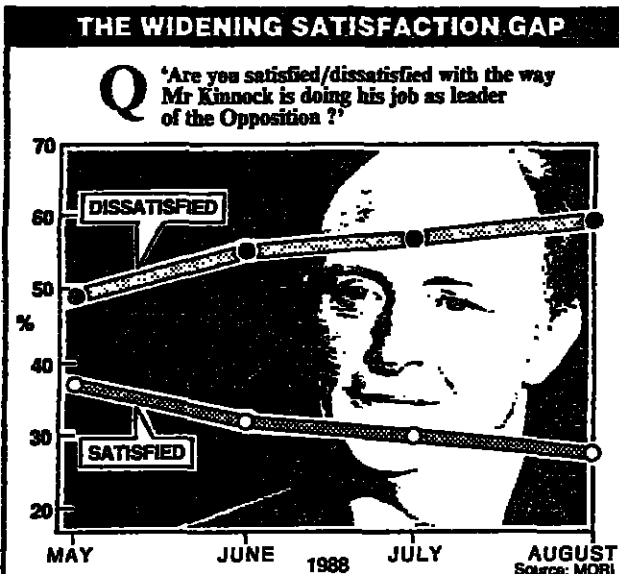
While Mr Kinnock's satisfaction index has dropped 4 per cent since July, Mrs Margaret Thatcher's has risen by 8 per cent.

Half the voters are satisfied with the Prime Minister's performance and 45 per cent dissatisfied.

Support for Mr Kinnock began sliding in June, according to MORI, after he apparently bowed to left-wing trade union opposition to his declared preference for abandoning "something for nothing unilateralism". This triggered the resignation of Mr Dennis Davies, Labour's defence spokesman.

Voters were reminded of the three things widely regarded as the ones they like least about Labour - its defence policy, its close relationship with the trade unions, and disunity - and Mr Kinnock is now paying the price.

MORI interviewed a representative quota sample of 1,885 adults aged 18 and over in 144 constituencies throughout Great Britain. Interviews were conducted face to face between August 18-22.



World Congress of Philosophy

Russians seeking greater intellectual freedom

In the new refreshing international atmosphere generated by *perestroika*, I T Frolov of the Soviet Academy of Science made a closing address to the World Congress of Philosophy at Brighton on Saturday. In this spirit he welcomed philosophers to the next congress to be held in Moscow in 1993.

Intellectual forces in the USSR are playing a leading role and are entering this new stage of development optimistically.

In passing, he paid tribute to Bertrand Russell and Albert Einstein for their contributions to "new thinking" on the world stage in the post-Second World War era. Deep philosophic analysis of

recent historical developments can form a sound basis for applying the various elements of *perestroika* underlying Mikhail Gorbachev's formulation of political and economic programmes.

The emphasis is on humanism in this transformation and the new view of society's development of socialist thought. Among priorities he listed were:

1 Founding a legal basis which will sustain *perestroika* and make it irreversible;

2 Releasing down the tight bureaucratic hold of the past era;

3 Releasing individual initiatives through the human dimension;

4 Nationalism in the USSR recognizing

past mistakes in Nagorno-Karabakh and the Baltic republics and applying appropriate remedies;

5 Alerting social consciousness to remedy technical failure such as that at the Chernobyl nuclear plant;

6 All branches of science in the Soviet Union collaborating in this ambitious integrated programme;

7 Using the recent party congress decision as a basis for future progress on all facets of reconstruction; and

8 Taking account of the views of colleagues in the scientific community around the world (as at the Brighton congress) and establishing clear lines of communication.

Motorway repairs

By Rodney Cowton, Transport Correspondent

Half of cones to vanish in budget cut

There could be 50,000 fewer cones on Britain's motorways and trunk roads this autumn as a result of the Department of Transport's moratorium on structural road repairs.

There are normally at least 100,000 cones on contraflows and other roadworks, with the biggest projects using possibly 8,000 each.

However, one industry source estimates that demand has fallen by about half, not only for cones but for most services from sub-contractors involved in road maintenance, since Mr Paul Channon, Secretary of State for Transport, announced in June that the programme would have to be reviewed because of pressures on his budget.

In March, the Department of Transport announced it planned to spend about £142 million up to the spring of 1989 in renewing about 80 miles of motorway and 200 miles of trunk road, but as there has been a virtually complete stoppage on tenders being invited, or contracts placed, since June, it is feared that the spending may be only about half of the announced figure.

One sub-contractor said

that they were often given only a few days' notice of their involvement on a project, and to be in a position to meet such short notice they had to lay in supplies early in the construction season on the basis of the Government's announced intentions.

Mr Channon has said that he plans to start by the end of the financial year all the projects for construction of motorways which are scheduled to start, and are ready to do so. There appears to be slippage there as well, with contracts not coming forward as quickly as expected.

No new motorway was opened last year, nor will any be this year.

Mr Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State at the Department for Transport, recently told Parliament that only 16 miles were expected to be opened by December next year, together with the completion of the widening of 24 miles of existing motorway.

The sections expected to be completed by the end of next year are the Warwick end of the M40 extension from Oxford to Birmingham, which should open in the summer,

and one on the M63 near Manchester. Repairs until next Monday:

London and South-east

M25 Surrey: contraflow jns 11-13 (Chertsey/Staines) two lanes at jn 12 (M3).

M11 Essex: contraflow jns 8-9 (Stansted/A11).

M2 Kent: contraflow jns 5 (Sittingbourne).

M20 Kent: lane restrictions jns 11-12.

M40 Buckinghamshire: contraflow jns 6-7 (Watlington/Thame), weekend slip road closures jns 7 (A329).

M40 Thames Valley: lane closures in both directions jns 1-3 (Slough/Stokenchurch).

A2 Bedford: contraflow Black Prince interchange and M25.

A299 Kent: lane restrictions east of Brenley Corner.

A3 Surrey: roadworks between Easing and Compton.

Midlands

M1 Northamptonshire: south-bound exit slip jn 15 (A508) closed.

M5 Hereford/Worcester: contraflow jns 4-4a (Bromsgrove/M42), jns 5-6 (Droitwich/Worcester north).

A509 Northamptonshire: single lane traffic, temporary lights.

A1 Nottinghamshire: contraflow at North Muskham.

A38 Nottinghamshire: lane restrictions.

A38 Derbyshire: contraflow.

A46 Warwickshire: contraflow.

North

M62 Greater Manchester: contraflow jns 20-22 (A627M/A672).

M62 W Yorkshire: contraflow jns 24-25 (Huddersfield/A644).

A19 Cleveland: contraflow on the Tees flyover.

A64 W Yorkshire: contraflow, Whitwell-on-the-Hill: delays likely York - Malton.

Wales and West

M4 Gwent: lane restrictions, both carriageways, jns 24-25 (Newport).

M5 Gloucestershire: contraflow jns 9-11 (Tewkesbury/Gloucester).

A30 Devon: temporary lights, Okehampton - Launceston at Hushlade.

A40 Gloucestershire: temporary lights, Woodchester.

A55 Clywd: roadworks, Northop.

A55 Gwynedd: delays likely at Emaenmawr and Llanfairfechan.

Scotland

M8 Lothian: contraflow 3-4 (Livingstone/Bathgate).

M74 Strathclyde: contraflow jns 4-5 (Hamilton/Bellshill); contraflow jns 7-8 (A72/A71); contraflow north and south of jn 12 (A74).

M9 Lothian: contraflow jns 3-2 (Linlithgow/Upphill).

Information supplied by AA Roadwatch

Bus pass for Sir Richard



Off duty: Sir Richard Attenborough, the film producer, director and actor, who is aged 65 today, tending an azalea in the garden at his home at Richmond, west London, yesterday.

Sir Richard, who also grows Cymbidium orchids in a greenhouse at his home, will celebrate with a lunch attended by 16 members of his family, including his wife, Sheila, and three children.

His nephew, Robert, son of his brother, Sir David, the naturalist and broadcaster, and his wife, who live in Australia, will join the celebration.

Sir Richard said the best part about being aged 65 was collecting his bus pass. However, that was the extent of his retirement plans.

He leaves for Los Angeles shortly to discuss his next film projects after the ending of the five-and-a-half month writers' strike, which kept the American film industry virtually at a standstill.

"My production budget with Universal Studios is for \$75 million to cover three films. I am going over to discuss which I do first", he said.

"The three are already decided. One is about Charlie Chaplin. Another is about the Victorian explorer Sir Richard Burton and the third about Thomas Paine, who wrote *The Rights of Man*."

Sir Richard, who produced and directed the film *Gandhi*, which won eight Academy Awards, said he had been thri-

lled with a telegram he received on Saturday from the Empire cinema, Leicester Square.

It said his latest film, *Cry Freedom*, about the political and racial struggles in South Africa, had taken its millionth pound at the box office. "Marvellous news. I think that is a record."

Sir Richard said his main interest was still work. "Noel Coward said work is much more fun than fun and he was right."

He said: "I also collect paintings, which I have done since I was 17, so I have some by great British artists like Bacon, Matthew Smith, Freud and Sutherland, and I collect Picasso ceramics". (Photograph: Nick Rogers)

WHITEHALL BRIEF by David Walker

Balancing budgets and benevolence

The chief executives who are to take over the running of blocks of Civil Service work, under the Government plans for more effective Whitehall management, will not all have glamorous jobs such as bossing Beefeaters or directing vehicle licensing.

One new agency will be working in distinctly plain, sometimes rather sordid circumstances: running it will take qualities of social concern as much as entrepreneurial spirit.

A chief executive is expected to be appointed in the autumn to the Department of Social Security's Resettlement Units for homeless men, a group of homes and hostels better known to the public as doss-houses. They are called Resettlement Units because, in principle, they seek to place the indigent in "the community". It rarely happens, though not from want of trying.

The turnover of the royal parks and palaces can be readily measured, and their Civil Service managers paid accordingly. Speed and accuracy will be obvious factors in setting targets for the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre. But how is the chief executive of the Resettlement Units to be encouraged?

Give him too great an incentive to reduce costs and he will be tempted to empty the hostels of the older indigents taking up bed space... the more dossers under the arches, the cheaper the bill for the Camberwell spike.

It makes financial sense. But in drawing up a business plan for the units, the DSS is not going to be either so

heartless or so naive. Business skills must be balanced by a social worker's temperament.

An advertisement for the chief executive's position, to be placed next week, makes reference to a "feeling for the needs of this group". Yet resettlement is a business: the units employ some 600 staff; their turnover is about £16 million a year.

What the department has to do is negotiate through an area where some of the easy clichés of the new managerialism do not go very far. Ensuring that indigent men placed in the community come to no harm might transgress the strict rules on measuring "output".

The first problem for the new chief executive is that he will be required to do himself out of a job. Caring directly for the old and homeless is not a business the Government wants to be in. It announced a while ago that within 10 years it wants the hostels and units closed, or transferred to local authorities or voluntary organizations.

Local authorities already provide social care. The bargain is that any savings effected by the Government in running the units would go to the councils, not be snatched back by the Treasury.

An incentive to the chief executive is that any running cost savings made could be recycled, either in research work or improving the hostels.

The DSS often comes across as stony-hearted. But at its best the department marries managerial efficiency with con-

cern for the disadvantaged.

The chief executive of the units will have quite a job. On one side he has to look to running costs, to cut staff wage bills and where possible entire units to meet targets.

On the other he has to persuade local groups to take on a big commitment. And all the while he has to look out for potential embarrassments to government ministers who do not like accusations of meanness towards this particular group of poor people.

For such reasons, the Resettlement Units are not going to move too far from the parent department's embrace. The chief executive will report regularly and his freedom of action (for example in obtaining legal advice) will be strictly limited: the DSS will still carry out the management of personnel.

The benefit of agency status, the department says, is that the chief executive will be more visible. It is envisaged the job will go to a Civil Servant rather than an outsider. It will be paid at grade 6, senior principal grade, with the possibility of a performance bonus (to be based on a whole series of running cost targets).

What is it in for the old men? They are hardly the "customers" envisaged by the theory of managerialism, since their choice is the spike or the street. At the least they face a change of landlord since the chief executive is also going to be assessed on how rapidly he can persuade charities and councillors to take them on.

The Polish crisis

Restraint in Gdansk points to readiness for compromise deal

From Richard Bassett, Gdansk

As the Polish Communist Party's special Central Committee plenum resumed yesterday, there were fresh signs of a compromise emerging to solve the wave of industrial unrest.

At a rally held after Mass at the Solidarity church, St Brygida, in Gdansk, crowds of several thousands chanting "Solidarity! No freedom without Solidarity!" dispersed without any violent conflict with the riot police.

Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader, was reported by aides to have lost a shoe and been slightly injured in a scuffle with police when he jumped a fence to re-enter the Lenin Shipyard early in the day. He had left the yard on Saturday to confer with advisers. Mr Walesa remained in the shipyard yesterday rather than be seen to be provoking the large crowds which gathered at the church.

Only some whistling and booing as the police called on the crowd around St Brygida's to disperse after the service indicated the hostility between the two sides. Though several units of riot police equipped with bulletproof jackets, shields and crash helmets belatedly took up positions, they remained only spectators as the crowd slowly made its way home.

It was clear that both the Solidarity activists and the senior officers of the riot police were under strict instructions to avoid any clashes which could compromise the delicate negotiations imminent between the authorities, the Roman Catholic Church and the strikers.

● The party plenum continues to criticize the Government ●

230-strong Central Committee continued yesterday to call for urgent moves to end the strike.

Not all, however, were in favour of a peaceful solution. Several members called for the use of force to end the strikes, which as well as undermining the rule of law were provoking, in Mr Cyrek's words, "anarchy-generating destruction".

But while the politicians in Warsaw debated, in the Silesian coal mines where the strikes first began more than a week ago only two mines were still occupied. These two, together with shipyard workers in Gdansk and port workers in Szczecin, eagerly await the outcome of the plenum.

Speculation that the Government will remove some of its members in response to the crisis has been greeted with guarded optimism by Solidarity activists in Gdansk.

Mr Wladyslaw Baka, the Politburo member rumoured to be about to replace the Prime Minister, Mr Zbigniew Messner, should a scapegoat be necessary, is seen by several opposition members as a more "positive personality" than Mr Messner.

But such personnel changes remain a largely cosmetic approach to the problem, and show little sign of solving the crisis in the long term.

Only by accepting the necessity for some form of trade union pluralism can the Government hope to weather the storms Solidarity seems capable of brewing at will while the economy remains in such a shaky state.

General Jaruzelski's dilemma remains how to concede such pluralism without giving Solidarity a legal foothold to expand its activities and challenge the Government. Significantly, despite the conciliatory rhetoric coming from Warsaw in the past two days, reference to "talks with the strikers" has only been with the proviso that only those who respect the Constitution are welcome to attend.

Poland's profiteers and black marketers have stepped up their demands for Western goods and currency. The price of the dollar on the black market has virtually doubled in the past week, with the zloty still a second-rate currency.

Thatcher's role, page 10

Serb rally demands action



Serbs carrying placards denouncing the "inhuman rule" of their leaders during a protest over Kosovo in the town of Titov Vrbas.

More than 15,000 Serbs and Montenegrins packed the central square of Titov Vrbas on Saturday, shouting "We want arms" and "Army to Kosovo" (Reuters reports). The rally, which demanded government action over the alleged harassment of Serbs and Montenegrins by ethnic Albanians in the Kosovo region, was the sixth in less than two months.

"The protesters are challenging the leadership's authority and are becoming increasingly militant," a Western diplomat said.

Dissidents protest to Ceausescu over village destruction

By Mary Dejevsky

A group of Romanian dissidents has addressed a letter to the country's leader, Mr Nicolae Ceausescu, protesting against plans to demolish thousands of villages and resettle the inhabitants in modern complexes.

The chief signatory of the open letter is Mrs Doina Cornea, who was a lecturer at the University of Cluj in Transylvania until 1983, when her outspoken opinions cost her her job. Transylvania, with its large Hungarian population, is one of the areas which will be most affected by the resettlement project, and some of the strongest protests until now have come from neighbouring Hungary.

In the letter, which has just reached the West, Mrs Cornea says that the planned "territorial systematization" would completely destroy the traditional rural way of life in Romania.

"Was the brutal collectivization forced on the majority of the rural population not enough?" she asks. "Was it not enough to transform the Romanian peasants into a sort of proletariat and thus erode their moral and religious structures, their outlook, customs and traditions... Will the last remnants of our unhappy peasantry now be shattered as well?"

She questions the way in which the project, which some non-Romanians have compared with the Scottish clearances or Stalin's collectivization programme, would be implemented.

"Try to imagine the sorrow of these people as they are chased from their homes and villages," she writes.

"A village," she says, "is built on shared suffering and joys; it represents the love of people for their land and for the house where they were born. A village also means the

graveyard where their parents are buried, the church... where they got married, had their babies christened and prayed in their hour of need... By demolishing the peasant home... you strike at the very soul of the people."

The letter says that rural inhabitants do indeed need help - many have been reduced to poverty by a succession of central edicts relating to agriculture. But, it says, "they can be helped, as in Western states, by providing their settlements with modern facilities within the traditional framework."

It went on to advocate giving the land back to the peasants to cultivate in family units, granting loans for the purchase of new machinery and allowing peasants to sell their produce freely.

● VIENNA: Mr Karolyi-Grosz, the Hungarian Prime Minister and Communist Party leader, yesterday began talks in the western Romanian city of Arad with President Ceausescu, the official Romanian news agency said (AP reports). These are the first bilateral talks between Communist leaders of the two countries in 11 years.

The Romanian Agerpres news agency said in a terse report that a first round of talks was held in the morning. "Aspects related to the development of the Romanian-Hungarian links were approached," it said. The meeting continued in the afternoon.

The Hungarian news agency MTI reported that the city of Oradea, where the last Romanian-Hungarian summit was held in 1977, had also been offered as a site for the talks.

Hungarian radio said that Mr Grosz would raise the issue of the Romanian scheme to destroy villages and resettle the inhabitants in so-called agro-industrial centres.

Fledgling party struggles for a voice as official crackdown intensifies

Moscow, May 7-9: The inaugural conference of the Democratic Union was attended by 148 people from several cities. Electing a committee of 14, it declared itself an opposition party.

Minsk, May 9: Mrs Valeriya Novodvorskaya of the Democratic Union was among demonstrators supporting political prisoners who was arrested and charged with "disobedience to the demands of the militia". She was summoned to appear in court on May 12.

Moscow, May 12: The Frunze district court sentenced Mrs Novodvorskaya to a 20 per cent salary cut for two months. That evening she held up a placard in Pushkin Square "Partocracy is not democracy!" and told passers-by of the arrest of Mr Sergei Grigoryants and the destruction of his journal, *Glasnost*. She was arrested and summoned to appear in court on May 17.

Moscow, May 17: Mrs Novodvorskaya was sentenced to 15 days' detention.

Leningrad, May 28: The Democratic Union organized a meeting at the Kazan Cathedral with other informal groups in support of the introduction of a multi-party system. Between 1,000 and 1,500 people attended the meeting, addressed by Miss Yekaterina Podolskaya and Miss Eleonora Chernova. After 30 minutes the militia broke up the gathering, arresting 33. Some detainees were beaten. All were released but ordered to appear in court later.

Moscow, June 25: About 40 people were arrested in Pushkin Square when the Democratic Union organized a demonstration against repression of its members.

Moscow, June 27: Mr Igor Gorkov, a Democratic Union member, was sentenced to 15 days' jail for taking part in a demonstration in defence of

Shul'kov, was detained. Odessa, July 10: Authorities broke up a Democratic Union in Support of Perestroika meeting.

Riga, July 16: Twenty thousand people attended an officially permitted gathering of the Democratic Union.

Odessa, July 17: A Democratic Union in Support of Perestroika meeting in Shevchenko Park was broken up by militiamen and Afghan war veterans.

Leningrad, July 26: Soldiers removed a stand protesting at the arrest of Mr Aleksandr Bogdanov and a Democratic Union stand on Nagorno-Karabakh. Many demonstrators were taken away in cars, including Mr I. Terekhov, who was taken to Militia Station No 27. Within 15 minutes, about 70 people had gathered to demand his release. Mr Terekhov was later released facing criminal charges.

Moscow, July 27: Mr Aleksandr Ponomarenko of the Democratic Union, was forcibly detained in Psychiatric Hospital No 13. His demand that he be examined by experts was declined. He is receiving forced treatment

and friends say he has been diagnosed as a schizophrenic.

Saratov, July 28: Mr Andrei Derevyankin and Mr Dmitri Ovcharenko, members of the Saratov branch of the Democratic Union, were arrested and given summonses for distributing *Glasnost* and *Ekspress-Khronika*.

Moscow, July 30: The now-traditional Saturday public meeting of opposition groups was allowed to take place on Tversky Boulevard.

Odessa, July 31: The weekly information meeting in Shevchenko Park was held by the Democratic Union in Support of Perestroika. An unplanned demonstration took place and one person was arrested.

Leningrad, Aug 1: Nearly 30 people were arrested when more than 600 people attended a banned meeting on national problems organized by the north-western branch of the Democratic Union.

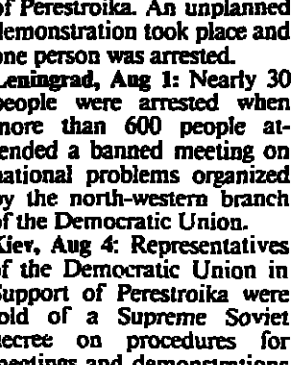
Kiev, Aug 4: Representatives of the Democratic Union in Support of Perestroika were told of a Supreme Soviet decree on procedures for meetings and demonstrations and warned against holding events without permission. A registration application by the

group has had no response.

Leningrad, Aug 13: A meeting of *Vakhtang Miron* (Peace Watch) in the Yusupov Gardens was dispersed by the militia. The authorities say this was done because members of the Democratic Union and of the Trust Group were allowed to address the meeting.

Mr Vladimir Setinsky of the Democratic Union was arrested while collecting signatures for a petition calling for the transfer of Mr Boris Yeltsin (the former Moscow City party leader) to Leningrad. He was later released.

Moscow, Aug 14: About 70



Mr Julius Rybakov, head of the Democratic Union in Leningrad. (Photo: Possev).

people attended a meeting of the Moscow branch of the Democratic Union which adopted declarations on the anniversary of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia and on the introduction of the "Red Terror" law by the Bolsheviks on September 5, 1918. A petition calling for official admission that the war in Afghanistan was criminal and demanding criminal charges against those who started it was organized by Mr Aleksandr Pronozin.

Sverdlovsk, Aug 15: Mr Vladimir Bogachov, a Democratic Union member, was arrested and sentenced to 10 days' imprisonment while attempting to acquaint residents with the union's declaration on the Czechoslovakia invasion.

Moscow, Aug 16: Mr Andrei Gryaznov and Mr Aleksei Petrov were arrested for trying to distribute the declaration on the Czechoslovakia invasion anniversary.

Krasnoyarsk, Aug 18: An official warning under Article 70 of the Criminal Code was given to Mrs Yevgeny Goncharov and Mr Viktor Salotov, both Democratic Union members, in the presence of the procurator of the city and a

KGB colonel.

Moscow, Aug 21: A Democratic Union meeting on the anniversary of the Czechoslovakia invasion was broken up by militia crowd-control units, wearing berets and bulletproof vests and carrying heavy batons and long shields; they acted as snail units, taking out speakers or individuals in the crowd. Some 32 demonstrators were arrested, including Mr Sergei Grigoryants, detained after asking about his colleague, Mr Andrei Bobitsky. The latter was beaten unconscious during the demonstration.

At 1 am that night a unit of Blue Berets (Parachute Regiment) burst into the station and started beating up detained demonstrators. The women were dragged from cells by their hair and Mrs Yekaterina Podolskaya was beaten unconscious. Mr Andrei Kovalyov was beaten up outside for asking about the condition of those inside. He needed hospital treatment.

A major at the militia station told Mr Valery Senderov that any complaint would have to be addressed through a lawyer and refused to comment further.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Russians destroy first three SS20s

Moscow (Reuters) - A batch of three SS20 missiles was blown up at a Soviet missile base yesterday to mark the start of a three-year programme to scrap all such weapons under the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty.

Tass reported that the three missiles were exploded at Kapustin Yar test range - 55 miles south-east of Volgograd - where 600 SS20s are to be destroyed. Tass said the operation was watched by United Nations representatives. The missiles would be scrapped in batches of three on the 15th and the 30th of each month.

Bhutto allies to meet

Karachi - The nine-party Movement for Restoration of Democracy, led by Miss Benazir Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party, will meet here today to plan its response to President Zia's death (Zahid Hussain writes).

Although its leaders have emphasized the need for unity, observers say Zia's death has removed the common ground. Also, Miss Bhutto may not give 40 per cent of power to other members. The Supreme Court yesterday admitted for hearing on October 2 her petition challenging the non-party-based poll on November 16.

Manila coup threats

Manila - President Aquino of the Philippines is ignoring fears of military unrest and leaving for a three-day visit to Brunei amid fresh threats from the right to overthrow her (Humphrey Hawksley writes).

The visit follows the first anniversary yesterday of a coup attempt and comes two days after Vice-President Salvador Laurel launched a new opposition group. At the same time the leader of last year's coup attempt, Mr Gregorio Honason, a former colonel, said in an interview he would continue his fight against President Aquino.

Submarine rescue

Lima (Reuters) - Rescuers have freed 23 sailors trapped in a sunken Peruvian Navy submarine for almost 24 hours after it collided with a Japanese fishing trawler, President Alan Garcia said at the weekend.

Seven of the 52 crew on board, including the commander, died in the accident. The President, giving details of the rescue, said that the Navy had used a rescue bell to enter the submarine through one of the hatches and pull out the men, who had been trapped since Friday night. Twenty-two sailors were rescued immediately after the crash.

Democrat campaign falters after fall in poll fortunes

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

With controversies over Senator Dan Quayle appearing to be in full retreat, the presidential election race has focused sharply on Governor Michael Dukakis's stunning overnight plunge in popularity as his campaign shows signs of malaise and worry.

The huge swing in public opinion demonstrates how fickle and confused the electorate remains, with neither presidential contender appearing to inspire voters with much confidence, leaving the battle for the White House neck-and-neck.

Mr Dukakis has been coasting since the triumphant Democratic convention last month, apparently confident that a lead in the polls of between 12 and 17 per cent

was insurmountable. By mainly staying at home in recent weeks he has been doing precisely what Governor Thomas Dewey of New York did in 1948. With opinion polls showing him with an unbeatable lead, Mr Dukakis sat out the election in Albany and Mr Harry Truman swept to a surprise victory.

Mr Dukakis's campaign has been staggered by the change in fortunes, leaving the Democrats as underdogs for the first time. His recent performance has disappointed some of his closest political allies, and he can soon be expected to return to a full national campaign to try to recoup.

"After our convention we got into a lull and our expectations got way too high,"

Representative Tony Coelho of California said, reflecting a widely held Democratic view.

The rise of the Bush-Quayle ticket in every big opinion poll, despite a fortnight of controversies, has befuddled Democratic strategists. Mr Quayle has been getting tumultuous responses where he has campaigned in recent days, and in an interview published yesterday said he had never considered quitting the race during the controversies after his nomination.

A confident Mr George Bush, declaring to loud cheers in Texas that "I'm not going to let them take it away from me," spent the weekend attacking Mr Dukakis in some of his toughest language yet on a range of issues.

Sudan woos the press with plane trip to flooded north

From Catherine Bennett, Khartoum

In a bid to reconcile relations between the Sudanese Government and the foreign press - reprimanded last week for "disinformation" and "exaggeration" - a Libyan plane left Khartoum for the flooded Northern Province with a cargo of 18 foreign journalists.

Its intended itinerary was condensed to a two-hour stop at Merowe, a small town 190 miles north of Khartoum.

The "executive director of the southern area of the Northern Province", Mr Izzidin Muhammad, was waiting in paramilitary uniform at the airport, where he announced that this year's floods had risen further than in the 1946 flood.

In the worst areas, 90 per cent of the houses had been

washed away. But looking at Tangasi, a small village four miles from Merowe, it seemed that the vegetation had suffered more than the people. River water lapped around the palm trees, about 7 ft deep, and men were swimming around the trunks looking for dates.

Mr Muhammad said that, although still rising, the water was expected to recede in "two or three days". Beneath it are ruined fields of dura and wheat.

"We are expecting malaria and typhoid," Mr Muhammad said, adding there were not as yet any obvious health problems. "We have a dispensary here with three doctors," he said after consulting a village elder. But he was

quite certain that his people needed food.

"The Government sent 240 sacks of flour yesterday," he said. "It is nothing. We are expecting more. We need flour, we need milk, we need sugar." But the shortages do not yet seem to have caused undue hunger in Tangasi.

Journalists were invited yesterday to witness government food distribution in Shagara, south Khartoum, organized by Brigadier-General Omar Abdul Aziz. His area included two unofficial settlements where 4,500 houses had been destroyed. He said: "We have made an official town called Jabal Awlia where we have, officially, ground for a house for every family." But many had refused to move.

My half-mile of glory as an Olympic torch bearer

From Gavin Bell, Cheju Island, South Korea

It is tough being an acolyte of Zeus. The athletic young warriors of Ancient Greece took it all in their stride, of course, but bearing the sacred flame is an awesome task for a lowly scribe with no previous experience of immortality.

Reporting the arrival of the Olympic torch is one thing. Being invited to carry it on part of its circuitous route to Seoul is quite another.

There were daunting aspects to consider. One wondered whether Zeus, a particularly vengeful deity with thunder and lightning at his disposal, would regard the choice of this torch-bearer as entirely appropriate. One was also aware that Olympic couriers in previous years had suffered appalling mishaps.

At the 1956 Winter Games in Cortina, the Italian speed-skating champion Guido Caroli was gliding towards the torch-tower when he stumbled, skidded and fell flat on his face. In the same year, a torch heading for the Melbourne Olympics broke when the burner fell off.

The most spectacular disaster came in 1968, when a torch exploded three times en route to Mexico. Four athletes and an official were burnt, and the following runners were compelled to wear asbestos gloves.

I learnt with misgiving that the bronze and copper torch entrusted to my care had been manufactured by

the Korea Explosive Company - and that its upper arm would reach a temperature of 700°C.

However, one was assured that nothing could go wrong. It was designed to withstand torrential rain, and winds of more than 200 mph. The solid fuel would burn for seven minutes, which would be more than adequate to jog little more than half a mile to light another torch borne by the next runner.

Unhappily, something did go wrong a few hours earlier for two children assigned to the first relay leg from Cheju Island airport on Saturday. Their torch went out.

It was promptly relit by one of several safety flames also conveying the Olympic flame, and the child-

ren managed not to cry. Thus it is with mixed feelings that one regards the approach of this historic fire, clearly visible as a swirling cloud of white smoke.

Helicopters clatter overhead, scores of cameras focus on your outstretched arm, a phalanx of escorting runners watch expectantly as the torches meet. A hiss, a spurt of flame and a rousing cheer signal your departure on the most memorable run of your life.

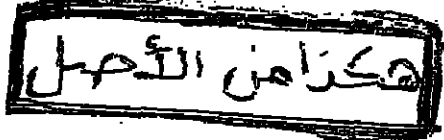
It is difficult to describe adequately one's emotions on such an occasion. The mind reels with elation, pride and a profound sense of honour. One is, after all, bearing the symbol of a sacred tradition stretching back 3,000 years. Cyn-

cism instilled by political boycotts, drugs scandals and terrorism is wiped out at a stroke by the innocent excitement of a little Korean girl, her eyes shining with happiness as the flame passes her by.

For a few moments reality is suspended, the purity of the Olympic ideal is all that matters, and an overwhelming sense of peace and good will prevails.

All too quickly, the next relay stage came into view. The precious flame safely transferred, a mere mortal again, my brief moment of reflected glory ended in a clamour of reporters demanding interviews.

For probably the only time in his adult life, choked with emotion, the man from *The Times* was speechless.



Silence of the grave fills bloodstained Burundi

From Andrew Buckoka, Ntega, Burundi

The Burundi Government's claim that peace has returned to northern areas embroiled in tribal massacres since August 14 may be true, but for thousands it is the silence of the grave.

We saw no one as we drove for 20 miles through Ntega district, passing hundreds of empty houses, some burnt, most with the doors swinging open to reveal a few scattered belongings—clothes, cooking pots and the odd shoe. All that could be seen in the normally intensely cultivated gardens and fields were a few goats.

Our driver broke the silence: "But where are the people?" There used to be 150,000 in Ntega and the other worst-affected commune, Marangara, a few miles to the south. Of the 70,000 in Ntega, 3,500 have been gathered by the Army into the main town, also called Ntega. A similar number is believed to be left in Marangara. Nobody is entirely sure what has happened to the rest. Fifty thousand have fled into neighbouring Rwanda. Thousands more fled into more peaceful Burundi communes and the Government says 5,000 were killed.

Dr Ralph Dupre, a German doctor at the hospital at Kiremba, a few miles south of Marangara, said: "If the Government says 5,000, I estimate 20,000."

The Government's preliminary figure refers mainly to the members of the dominant Tutsi minority massacred by the Hutu majority in the first days of the bloodbath.

What followed, according to the Hutu refugees in Rwanda, the doctor and the patients at his hospital, was a massacre of the Hutu by the almost exclusively Tutsi Army. The doctor's apron was splashed with blood and a young woman whose leg had just been amputated was wheeled past as we arrived. He has performed 20 amputations in the last week, and more patients with terrible, infected wounds were carried in while we were there.

"For the moment the killing appears to have stopped," he explained, but until late last week "they were afraid they'd be killed on the way."

Almost all of the 80 wounded in the hospital are Hutus who have been hiding for up to a week. Fifty of them, mainly women and children, had as many as 20 bayonet wounds each. When asked how they could survive such injuries, he said: "They are very strong. It takes a lot to kill them."

One man sitting in the courtyard had a gash 6 in long and 1 in wide in the back of his neck, exposing his spine. Another had his mouth shot away, exposing his teeth.

The women and children were as bad. One woman had an infected hole in her breast left by a bullet that entered her back. There was a 17-month-old baby girl with a bullet wound through her jaw. Her mother had also been shot in the face and the father killed. A boy aged two and a half years sat up in bed, his right arm held by his father. His left arm had been amputated at the shoulder after being shattered by a bullet. His mother, brother and sister had been killed.

In another bed were two eight-year-old girls. One had been bayoneted in the back while she was lying on the ground, the other



A knife-slashed Tutsi boy, aged eight, and his sister, two, in hospital.

● A baby girl had a bullet wound in her jaw. A girl aged eight was bayoneted lying on the ground ●

had machete wounds to the hands and neck. "It was the soldiers," she said.

They were not all Hutus, however. There was an eight-year-old Tutsi boy with his face smashed by a machete. His mother said his father had been killed. There is stark evidence in Ntega town of the initial massacre of Tutsis by the Hutus. The Hutus in the refugee camps in Rwanda admit it occurred, though many say they

were not involved. Sister Libera, a nun at the Catholic Mission at Ntega town, said that on the night of August 14 "we were woken up and heard screams all around. We had no idea what was happening". The next day some Tutsis came to hide at the mission.

She heard more screams and saw burning houses and people throwing stones in the town all that day and the following night. At 4 am on the morning of the

16th a mob of Hutus arrived at her house. "Listen—we're ready, give us the people you have hidden," the sister heard them shout.

They came back several times, threatening to burn the house and kill the sisters unless they told where they had hidden the people. The sisters said they had hidden nobody, but think someone at the mission was forced to give them away. At about 11 am a crowd of about 1,000, with spears, machetes and stones, surrounded the building beside the church and chased the people hidden there out of the back door.

Five men were killed on the way to a tiny outhouse behind the church. Another nine people were killed there. I saw the smashed door and gaping hole where the window had been.

Inside, the blood-splashed floor was covered with the stones thrown by the crowd. Blood-soaked dresses and a shawl stained with blood completed the memorial. The sister said she had rescued three wounded children from among the bodies. "A normal person would not do things like that. I'm sure they were drugged."

The Army arrived a couple of hours later, their progress slowed by the trees felled across the road. The area was sealed off until 10 days later, and there are still armoured cars and pick-up trucks and lorries full of soldiers with automatic rifles and fixed bayonets all around.

The first people we saw in Ntega, packing up on the mission steps, were a squad of soldiers led by Lieutenant Anatole Davugiruzho. Asked where all the people were, his first response was a

chuckle. He later said: "It was very difficult for us. We had to re-establish order." He agreed there were "many, many people dead".

Major Jenjan-Bosco Dandagwa, who stopped us on the road back, explained the official position. He showed us bulldozer marks where he said 500 Tutsis had been buried, out of the 3,500 killed in Ntega. They had been collected into groups and killed by machete blows to the back of the neck. He told us many Hutus did not want to take part, but those who refused had an ear cut off as a warning; if they still refused, they were killed.

The few houses near the graves all had smashed or fire-blackened doors. The only thing alive was a terrified white rabbit.

Asked about the injuries to Hutu men, women and children we had seen, the major replied: "Some were wounded when we were fighting rebels, that's natural." Asked about bayonet wounds, he suggested they had been caused by spears.

Asked whether it was possible to confuse wounds caused by bullets with those caused by machetes, he said: "It's possible." He also said the "rebels" had guns, the first time this has been suggested. There have been no confirmed reports of soldiers killed or wounded, though two of the hundreds of bodies seen floating down the Akanyaru river, which forms the border between Rwanda and Burundi to the west of Ntega, were said to be in uniform.

Dr Anselm Niyongabo, in charge of another hospital to which the major directed us, said it was possible to distinguish bayonet and spear wounds and

there were no bayonet injuries among the 52 injured he had treated. Most of them were Tutsis who had reached the hospital quickly. There were few serious infections and no amputees.

The reason for the bloodbath is still not clear. The major said it was because of provocation by infiltrators from another country—presumably Rwanda—which has a similar population mix—15 per cent Tutsi to 85 per cent Hutu—but a Hutu Government.

The Hutu in camps in Rwanda say it was because they heard the Tutsis planned another massacre of their people, and this time they would not be slaughtered like sheep. In 1972 100,000 Hutus were killed after a Hutu-led coup attempt.

Though President Buyoya, who took power in a palace coup 11 months ago, had made some tentative steps towards accommodating the Hutus, including appointing some to senior government posts, it appears the ever-present Tutsi fear of a mass Hutu uprising prompted the army killings.

The population has been rising by 3.5 per cent per year since 1972, and tiny Burundi's five million people make it one of the most densely populated countries in Africa. Its social organization, under which the racially distinct elite lives cheek by jowl with its subjects, is perhaps comparable only with South Africa.

Whatever the reasons, the hysterical brutality of both sides and its eerie, silent aftermath in Ntega and Marangara reinforce Sister Libera's last words to us: "If you are Christians, pray for this country."

Convicts let loose in Burma to show the need for strong rule

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

The Burmese Government has released from jail hundreds of murderers and other convicted criminals, expecting them to worsen the chaotic conditions spreading across the country, according to sources in Rangoon.

Foreign diplomats and opposition leaders said they had evidence that the Government of President Maung Maung believes that the men would run amok and show the value of strong, unchallenged rule after a month of tumultuous civil disobedience intended to bring down the one-party state.

There are also reports that the Military Intelligence Service has placed agents *pro-contract* among protest groups, hoping that by throwing bombs, indiscriminate shooting and setting fire to buildings they will discredit the demonstrators. Others among the demonstrators are said to be using guns, knives and sticks to settle old scores with officials and security men.

Rangoon residents are convinced that the Government is making a last-ditch stand and has only a few days to save the country from disastrous turmoil. The governing regime, which has been in power for 26 years, must either use the Army to restore normal conditions or make way at once for a caretaker government acceptable to the people.

Tens of thousands of students rallying at Rangoon University yesterday declared that their union—banned 26 years ago—had been reformed and that the universities closed for two months would reopen today. Teachers are expected to support these moves, which will be another test of the Government's will and of the Army's attitude.

No clear account has yet been given of incidents at

Insein prison, five miles from Rangoon, on Friday in which prisoners rioted and set fire to the jail. The state radio said that 36 inmates had died and more than 100 were wounded. The prison was burnt down. The radio also said that seven prisoners had been killed and more than 1,700 had escaped during riots at jails in Bassein and Sitwre in western Burma. Workers who went on strike at state-owned newspapers

prices are soaring. Gangs are breaking into food warehouses and setting them on fire, and are looting rice from railway wagons.

Hundreds of local officials appointed by the ruling party have resigned and monks and students have moved into their offices and are trying to restore some order to local administration.

The security forces turn their backs on all these incidents.

"They're waiting for a lead from somebody," said a Western diplomat. "If this situation continues, the Army may feel forced to take tough measures. That could take Burma back to square one."

There have been numerous appeals for the Army to come out firmly in support of the popular uprising, but senior officers remain silent. Despite some defections, the Army is still believed to be under the influence of General Ne Win, who ruled for 26 years until public protests forced him to resign last month.

Several reports have said that he has fled to Europe, where he owns property. But diplomatic sources say that he is at his heavily guarded house in Rangoon.

● **DEHAKA:** Foreign Office sources dismissed reports yesterday that General Ne Win had fled to Bangladesh (Our Foreign Staff writes). *Itedga*, a Bengali daily, said the general had arrived in the Cox's Bazar region, 220 miles south-east of Dhaka, on Wednesday by speedboat before flying to an unspecified location.

However, *The Bangladesh Observer* reported that he was staying in a motel in Cox's Bazar and that thousands of people had gone to the resort after hearing that he was there. Police said he was not there. Letters, page 11

and stopped publication for three days resumed yesterday after promises of more editorial freedom. The workers said that they would stop work again unless complete freedom was restored.

But few people are working elsewhere. Transport and communications are in chaos, there is little fuel and nothing has moved on the Rangoon docks for three weeks. There is still food in the markets, but it is becoming more scarce and

Rocard scores New Caledonia triumph

From Susan MacDonald, Paris



M Rocard accepting flowers from a Kanak flower seller during a visit to a market in Noumea, New Caledonia, yesterday.

The French Prime Minister, M Michel Rocard, flew out of New Caledonia yesterday after a successful three-day visit which has won acclaim from all sides.

The visit—the first by a Socialist Prime Minister—came a week after the signing in Paris of an agreement on the future of the French territory over the next 10 years, ending in 1998 with a referendum on independence for the islands.

Three months ago New Caledonia was on the brink of civil war. M Rocard, through patient negotiation, has not only succeeded in bringing together the leader of the pro-French settler community, M Jacques Lafleur, and the pro-independence Melanesian leader, M Jean-Marie Tjibaou, but while in New Caledonia broke new ground by travelling throughout the islands meeting both communities to explain the agreement and urge them to make it work.

It provides for setting up three main regions, one to be run by the settler pro-French community and the others by the indigenous pro-independence communities.

In an important speech, M Rocard said the time had come to end the inequality of the domination of the settler community over the others. During the next 10 years, the indigenous population will be placed on the same social and economic footing as the European community.

Addressing Kanaks on tribal lands, Lifou Island, the Prime Minister said it was now up to the indigenous population to work with the opportunities being given.

Different French governments have drawn up various solutions for New Caledonia in the past. To avoid this latest agreement being reversed by any future government, it will be voted on in a national referendum in November.

An opinion poll published in today's *Le Point* magazine shows that 52 per cent of French people polled were in favour of independence for New Caledonia.

Chance to end Euro-TV deadlock

From Michael Dynes, Brussels

EEC officials are considering a radical plan to overhaul the Community's draft directive on satellite broadcasting which promises to overcome the stalemate preventing the creation of a European television broadcasting system *sans frontières*.

The plan would effectively split the present draft directive in two, enabling the European Commission to deal separately with the vexed issues of establishing European-wide guidelines for satellite broadcasting and the European content of programming.

Officials are hopeful that the proposal, which has yet to surface officially, could form the basis for a compromise on the controversial question of establishing European-wide advertising standards, while allowing the problem of programme origins to be put on

the back burner for European cultural affairs ministers.

If successful, the scheme would enable Brussels to press ahead with the urgent task of creating advertising regulations for an industry whose development has been racing ahead of both the Community and national authorities' ability to regulate it.

But it faces competition from a rival proposal put forward by West Germany in July, similar to the regulations contained in a draft convention on satellite broadcasting drawn up by the Council of Europe, which would impose severe restrictions on commercial breaks.

The existing draft directive is designed to enable broadcasters to transmit programmes anywhere in the Community without interference from other member states, provided they meet certain requirements governing the European content of

programming, advertising breaks and public morality.

The directive would also cover ground-based stations whose transmissions can be picked up in neighbouring EEC countries.

But the proposals met with bitter opposition from member states during the first ministerial meeting on the draft directive in March. Britain denounced the proposals as an example of "European cultural imperialism," and backed a rival convention on satellite broadcasting being drawn up by the 21-member Council of Europe.

The Commission describes Britain's objection to quotas as dogmatic, and maintains that the Independent Broadcasting Authority already accepts the principle of quotas by requiring 66 per cent of all programmes on ITV and Channel 4 to come from Community sources. But Britain insists this is a

regulation enforced by the IBA, and apart from specifying that a "proper proportion" of broadcast material should come from the EEC, broadcasters should be free from government interference to decide the level.

Meanwhile, and to the consternation of Downing Street, the proposed convention—which is due for signature in Stockholm in November—has turned out to be equally, if not more, restrictive than the Community's proposals on advertising.

If the draft convention is not modified before November, a number of member states, including Britain, will have no alternative but to refuse to sign. They would then be forced into bilateral negotiations with their European neighbours, leaving the Council of Europe's aspirations for a single European-wide satellite broadcasting framework in a shambles.

Heat-struck Basra tackles the ravages of war

From Michael Hamlyn, Basra

Captain Jesper Boisen of the Danish Army was writing letters home in the foyer of the Shatt al-Arab Hotel.

He was also killing flies. He had lined up a row of seven little corpses, like the tailor of Gloucester. When you are a United Nations military observer, off duty in the heat of southern Iraq, there is not much else you can do.

Captain Boisen was also sad. His colleague, Major Steen Preben Andersen, also from the Danish Army, had died two days before, a victim of the punishing heat.

The Danish major, aged 51, had arrived in Iraq from Greenland. He was out on patrol in the central sector of the ceasefire line, where the Gulf War between Iraq and Iraq ended, when the blistering heat finally got to him. He passed out. He was taken by helicopter to the best military hospital in Baghdad, but died 72 hours later.

The UN commander in Iraq and Iraq, Major-General Slavko Jovic, said yesterday: "We lost an outstanding major."

The Shatt al-Arab Hotel in Basra provided some relief from the climate, if not from the flies. It is one of those establishments which the British scattered around the world in more expansive times. India, Pakistan and Africa are full of them.

Rangoon and Singapore and Colombo have them. The hotel in Basra overlooks the waterway that links once Iraq's lifeline to the world. Like that channel, it was closed by the onset of war eight years ago.

Now it has been reopened especially for the UN observers. It looks out on a desolate scene. The 70-mile-long waterway, where the Tigris and Euphrates meet, down which Shabab the Sailor first set out on his adventures, is lined in this part with a double row of rusting ships several miles long, trapped by the rising tide of war.

Elsewhere along the greenish water, overlooked by the hundreds of thousands of date palms for which Basra was also once famous, other ships lie. They have been caught in the bitter crossfire. Their decks are crisscrossed by alarming angles, their masts jutting out of the water like

appeals from drowning men. Along the fashionable corniche, a water-side promenade lined with upper-class bungalows, once gracious homes are broken by shellfire with scarcely a wall that is not pock-marked by shrapnel.

The corniche itself is lined with sandbagged trenches, punctuated by firing positions every few yards, and an underwater entanglement of barbed wire and iron rods.

Mr Qadar Imam, aged 63, a former shipping broker, said: "I was sitting here having a drink when there was a raid. When I got home, I found my house had been hit. The doors had been blown open by the blast. The top storey had been destroyed."

His experience was a common one in Basra, for the town was virtually on the front line. The invading Iraqis, having crossed the Shatt

al-Arab, came close to capturing it. On one terrible day—January 18, 1987—Mr Anwar Sayid, the governor of the province, recalled, 1,860 shells fell on its quaking streets. "Altogether more than 1,000 people died during the war here," he said. "More than 2,000 were wounded. I am talking about civilians, not military casualties."

After that dreadful month, the governor and his staff left their offices and moved eight miles down the road. A quarter of a million citizens did likewise. Whole areas were evacuated.

But in April this year Iraqi force of arms seized back the Fao peninsula south of the town in a military action which Iraq intends should be remembered in history along with Waterloo and El Alamein. The threat to Basra was palpably lifted, the governor returned, and the

usually that influence, and they certainly registered that point."

On Saturday Mr Reddaway visited Evin prison to meet Mr Cooper, who has been held for 2½ years accused of spying, for 15 minutes. He said Mr Cooper was "obviously very happy to have a visitor and very happy to have some English food which I was able to take him. But he would be even happier if he was able to come home."

British envoy returns after Iran jail visit

The main purpose of his mission was to gauge whether the security of British diplomats in Iran can be guaranteed if they return.

Mr Reddaway also raised the question of the three British hostages in Lebanon, but said: "I made our concerns known, but I didn't have any news. I raised the point we made before that we hoped any government that could influence people holding hostages would so-

Sri Lanka killings

Colombo (Reuter)—Eleven people were shot dead during separate incidents in Sri Lanka at the weekend, officials said.

Sinhalese extremist gunmen forced their way into a house and killed a married couple and two other men, west of Matara. At Bandaragama, south of Colombo, extremists shot dead a follower of a party supporting the Indo-Sri Lankan pact to end the separatist Tamil conflict. Gunmen also killed a policeman in Urubokke. Indian soldiers hunting Tamil rebels killed four guerrillas north of Vavuniya town. An Indian officer also died.

Drug decision

Madrid (AP)—A magistrate in the south-eastern Spanish town of Vera is expected to decide today whether to charge three British subjects arrested on suspicion of drug smuggling.

Writer dead

Athens (AP)—Costas Taktis, who wrote an internationally acclaimed novel, *The Third Wedding*, was found strangled at home, police said.

Buddhist dies

Bangkok (AP)—His Holiness Ariyavongsagatayana, the supreme head of Thai Buddhism, has died of heart failure and pneumonia, aged 90, newspapers reported.

Bus disaster

Karachi (AFP)—Fourteen people died when a high-voltage wire fell on a bus carrying 40 passengers in southern Pakistan.

Tax hardline

Peking (AP)—Chinese tax authorities are to crack down on local governments which give unauthorized tax breaks to lure foreign investors.

Officer jailed

Georgetown (Reuter)—A lieutenant of the paramilitary Guyana National Service received 24 years' jail after being found guilty of fatally beating an 18-year-old recruit.

Shark panic

Montpellier (Reuter)—Hundreds of bathers fled in panic from the water in southwestern France when the dorsal fin of a harmless 15ft basking shark was seen.

Crash landing

Chicago (Reuter)—Seven people suffered minor injuries when a Boeing 727 made an emergency belly landing after nose gear failed.

SPECTRUM

Dustbin, or pot of gold?

As British ports go on alert for the 'poison ship' Karin B, Andrew Lycett talks to the firm which is planning to make a profit from its toxic cargo, and investigates the claims that we are becoming the world's rubbish tip

Markus Vonlaufen, a waste broker in Lucerne, Switzerland, learned 18 months ago that the city of Zurich needed to dispose of large quantities of fly ash from its municipal incinerators. The Swiss, being experts of the "Not In My Own Back Yard" philosophy, had previously sent this waste to East Germany for "landfill" — tipping into large open holes left by extractive processes, notably mining.

But the consignments had to travel through the Federal Republic of Germany, and Bonn was demanding stricter transit documentation — not unrelated to the fact that East Germany's main landfills are at Schoenberg, just across the border from the West German town of Lübeck, where the good burghers have been complaining of contaminated water leaching out through the soil and travelling back into their country underground.

Vonlaufen immediately contacted Leigh Environmental, a large waste disposal company in the West Midlands. Could it take the ash for treatment by its patented Sealosafe process, and subsequent landfill? According to Dr Stephen Willetts, Leigh's Group Technical Director, Sealosafe reduces waste to a slurry which then solidifies, locking toxic materials into a chemical matrix with "low leaching and low permeability". Thus, it is claimed, there is little danger, if any, of fouling the water table, or of other environmental hazards.

What Sellafeld is to the nuclear waste industry, Sealosafe, and other hi-tech treatment processes, are to the growing international trade in wastes. They give British firms an edge in quoting for disposal of certain types of the western world's rubbish. Britain also has stable rock formations, impermeable clay, and vast, gaping holes left by mining...supposedly making disposal here safer than in some other countries.

Imports of waste have grown from 5,000 tonnes (almost all for landfill) as recently as 1984/5 to 183,000 tonnes in 1986/7 — 130,000 tonnes non-hazardous for direct landfill, and 53,000 tonnes of "special" or particularly toxic wastes for treatment or incineration. Leading customers are Holland (55 per cent of the 1986/7 total), followed by the Republic of Ireland, Belgium, Portugal, Canada and the United States.

Charles Secrett, campaigns director of Friends of the Earth, says: "We are becoming a garbage dump for Europe. We have been experiencing an exponential growth in our imports of waste. And the reason is that our laws are so weak." Everyone seems to agree with this, even the waste disposal contractors. "This country has very low standards," says Edward Wilkinson, Leigh's Group Services director, adding bitterly: "The Department of Environment's attitude is that any-

thing can be landfilled."

Waste disposal companies are required only to notify local authorities about certain toxic agents, such as the chemicals deemed "special" by the Department of Environment. Special is defined as waste that could kill or cause serious tissue damage to a child of 20 kilograms body weight or to an ordinary human adult if exposed to it for 15 minutes or less.

"Non-special", but still potentially hazardous wastes, such as contaminated soil, can be dumped with household refuse in Britain's 5,000 landfill sites. But, as Charles Secrett points out, household refuse can contain aerosols, heavy metals and syringes and other medical products flushed down through the lavatories.

Licensing of sites is in the hands of local authorities and this puts waste management on the level of "parish pump politics", says Leigh's Wilkinson. Site management can be lax, too. Too often special and non-hazardous refuse get bulked together at waste

transfer stations. Overall supervision of the system is in the hands of the Hazardous Waste Inspectorate — HWI (now subsumed into HM Inspectorate of Pollution — HMIP), headed by David Mills. But its inspectors were able to visit only 250 sites last year. Mills told the House of Commons Select Committee on the Environment in May that the number of inspectors needed to be doubled. No improvement was forthcoming, so a disillusioned Mills is leaving.

Exporters, before shipping waste, are supposed to obtain permission from the local authority at the place of disposal. But there are abuses.

The abundance of sites in Britain, together with the highly competitive tactics of brokers and smaller waste-disposal firms, means that European customers are offered prices of £2 per tonne for landfill this side of the Channel. HMIP estimates that, in order to finance proper maintenance and after-care, charges should be not less than £9 per tonne.

Last autumn the National Association of Waste Disposal Contractors, fearing that the low prices would mean a levelling down of standards, introduced a voluntary ban on imports for direct, untreated landfill. And Leigh, as one of the largest

importers (30,000 tonnes last year), and therefore particularly keen to improve standards, treats all imports meticulously as "special" imports.

When the company learned of the potential order from Zurich, samples were independently analyzed and there were discussions between council officials from Zurich and Walsall. In January of this year, shipments began. The ash comes by train from Zurich through France to Dunkirk. After crossing the Channel by ferry (nearly 5,000 tonnes so far), it again travels by rail from Dover to Round Oak Junction in the West Midlands. From there it is trucked a short distance to Leigh's Empire Works, a 125-acre landfill and treatment site smelling unmistakably of chemicals at an old brickworks on the outskirts of Walsall.

Dr Willetts explains that, normally, under the Sealosafe process, the effluent would then drain through a pipe into the landfill, where it would set within days. But Leigh is in dispute over the precise terms of its licence with the local council, which has temporarily banned any discharge into the landfill. So Zurich's ash, now liquidized, is currently transported to a competitor for ultimate disposal in another licensed site.

A suitable place for treatment? Huge packages of chemicals waiting for disposal at a landfill site which is operated by Leigh Environmental at Brownhills, West Midlands

REJECTING A DANGER FROM AMERICA

Recent television pictures of syringes and other surgical waste washed up on the empty beaches of the United States' east coast have alerted British waste disposal companies to another potentially vast market — the municipal refuse of North America.

For the last 18 months, two sinking barges — the Bark from Long Island, and the Khina Sea from Philadelphia — have been sailing around the Caribbean looking for resting places for their cargoes of sewage. Their plight reflects a waste disposal crisis in the US.

A newly-formed British company, Power, Water and Waste, sought to exploit this situation earlier this year by importing 1.5 million tonnes of American household waste annually into Cheshire and a further 1.25 million tonnes into Cornwall.

However, it did not reckon on local opposition in both counties. In Warrington, the local Conservative MP, Chris Butler, claimed the operation would involve 300 lorries thundering through his constituency every day. He said it would reduce the life of "a strategic long-term

facility" designed to take Cheshire's waste for the next 25 years to 10.

But according to George Harrison, a director of the company, such claims had been exaggerated. "Politicians always play it for the vote catching," he said. There would be little trucking, he added; the life of the Cheshire dump at Arpley Meadows, next to the Manchester Ship Canal, would only be reduced to 18 years, and local inhabitants would get both jobs and a new "refuse dry fuel" plant, designed to transform the waste into solid fuel.

The proposals were quashed last month by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. It pointed out that domestic refuse from New York and Philadelphia would contain dead animals, and other organisms, banned under its import regulations.

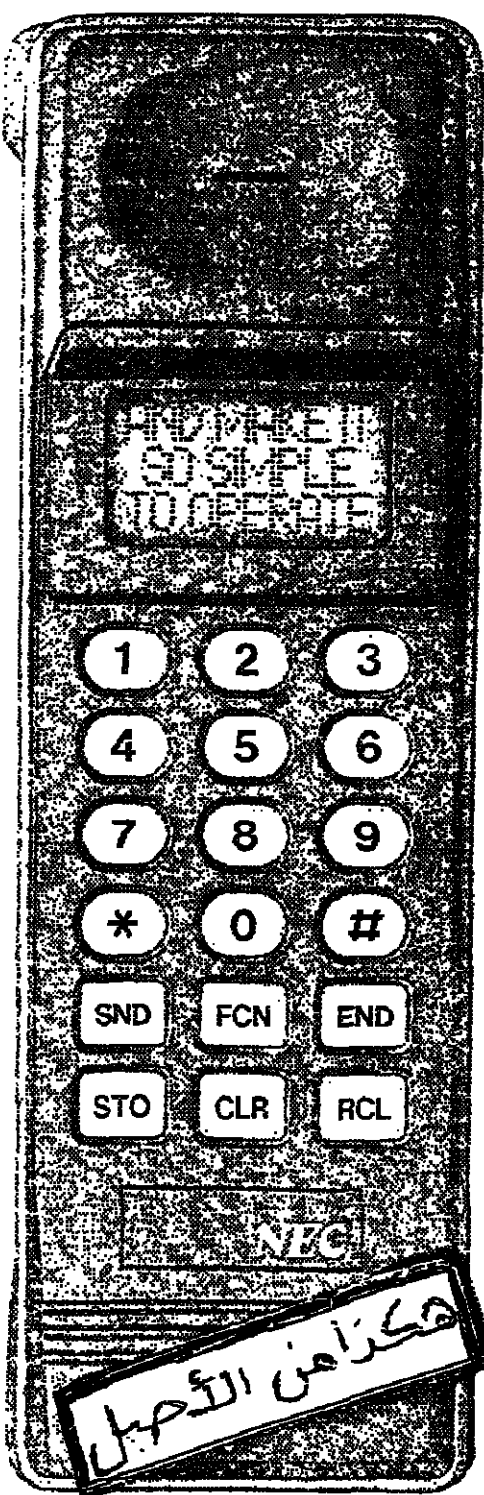
In Cornwall, Jack Parry, assistant planning officer for the county council, said: "Space for our own waste disposal is at a premium. There was a danger that if Cornwall came to be seen as a dumping ground it would drive away industry."

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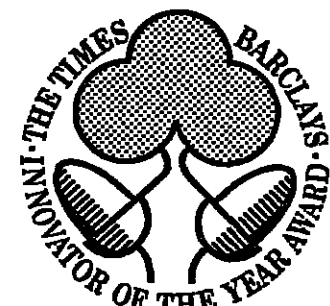
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of the winners' ideas. The winners are offered a cash prize of £10,000, plus free stand space at this year's Technart Exhibition at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, in November. The second prize is £2,500, plus free stand space at Technart. Prizes will be presented at the exhibition. The competition is limited to companies set up on or after July 1, 1985, and entries must arrive by September 16, 1988.

Entry forms and full details from Andrew Cavell, Manager, High Technology Team, Barclays Bank PLC, 54 Lombard Street, London EC3P 3AH.

Sponsored by Barclays Bank PLC and The Times

SCIENCE REPORT

The threshold of pain relief

A new class of drugs designed to relieve pain may also benefit people who suffer from arthritis. The drugs prevent the production of prostaglandins, the chemical messengers that cause pain by their action on pain receptors on the body's cells.

Other pain-relieving drugs, such as aspirin and steroids, act by interfering with the process of producing prostaglandins once it has already begun. But the new drugs stop the process from starting.

The new class of drugs is described in this week's *Nature* by Stephen Poole and Adrian Bristow, of the National Institute for Biological Standards and Control in Hertfordshire, working with Sergio Ferrera and Berenice Lorenzetti from the University of Sao Paulo in Brazil.

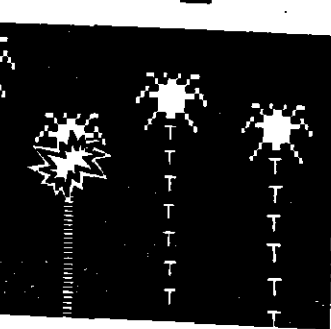
The pain-relieving substance is a tiny section of interleukin-1, one of a series of highly-potent proteins which have a range of effects on a cell. Interleukin-2, possibly the most celebrated member of the series, is known for its ability to make certain white blood cells recognize and destroy cancer cells.

Interleukin-1 is produced in response to invading micro-organisms. It increases the response of the immune system's helper T-cells which participate in eliminating the invaders. But the interleukin-1 molecules can also act destructively: high concentrations are

found in the lubricating fluid in arthritic joints. Here the molecules induce pain by stimulating the production of prostaglandins and the breaking down of the spongy tissue that cushions against wear in the joints.

Poole and his colleagues have found the section of the interleukin-1 molecule responsible for inducing pain. The remarkable result is that, in low doses, this section actually relieves pain. They tested 12 to 18-unit sections of the chain of amino acids making up the interleukin-1 protein for their ability to induce pain. Two sections were found to be almost as effective as the parent interleukin, and further tripping narrowed the active site down to the three amino acids, a tripeptide.

In low doses this tripeptide dulled the pain expected when interleukin-1 was injected afterwards. And the pain was prevented completely by rearranging the groups attached to the middle amino acid in the



trio in such a way as to alter their spatial distribution.

The researchers then tried to establish where the tripeptide acts to relieve pain. Naturally-occurring peptides, such as the enkephalins, act at specific cell receptors in the brain, rather like morphine, dulling the perception of pain.

The interleukin-1 tripeptide does not act on the brain in this way because it cannot block pain already induced by prostaglandin. And, unlike aspirin, it does not interfere with any of the steps in the production of prostaglandin when that is stimulated beforehand by another agent.

How, then, can a special section of this pain-inducing interleukin molecule relieve pain? The answer could lie in its receptor at the cell surface. The tripeptide could be mimicking the region of the parent interleukin-1 that binds to an area on the receptor, thereby preventing the larger molecule, which induces pain, from binding at the same site.

This approach already has been used to alleviate disease symptoms associated with the binding of one protein to another. In sickle-cell anaemia, the de-oxygenated haemoglobin molecules bind together in the blood vessels with painful consequences.

In one possible therapy, a small region of the protein is used that mimics the structure of the binding site and so interferes with the disastrous gelling of the larger molecules. Viruses are tackled by attempts to stop the virus attaching to its receptor at the cell surface, an essential process by which the virus enters the cell to perpetrate its damage. In theory this can be achieved with a sequence of amino acids that corresponds to part of the receptor, so this sequence should bind to the virus, preventing its attachment to the cell.

But a sequence of amino acids needs to be quite long before it can fold up, mimicking the three-dimensional shape of the binding region. In order to treat people for length must be restricted so that it is soluble.

Poole and his colleagues have apparently overcome this problem, possibly by adjusting the position of a side chain in the tripeptide so that a shorter sequence of amino acids can fit the receptor site more easily.

Rosalind Cotter

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She's come a long way, baby

In the 1970s the death of the nanny was announced. The old-fashioned nanny, devoted and undemanding, had actually been dead for a long time. But as the baby boom generation reached parenthood, a new market for the nanny was born. Young, smart and independent, the new nanny demands



Part 1
THE GOOD NANNY GUIDE

evenings off, weekends away and a car (yours), not a lifelong career. Her employers — the working mother and father — are unsure of whether nanny is a servant or a friend. Introducing a five-part series, Charlotte Breese and Hilaire Gomer explore the problem areas in the most delicate of all modern relationships

At the time, it was natural for Jonathan Gathorne-Hardy, in his 1972 book *The Rise and Fall of the British Nanny*, to write about what he thought were the last gasps of a dying breed. Ironically, just as the ink had dried, the dinosaur began to uncoil.

The reason behind the rising demand for nannies and every kind of child care is the fact that more women work than ever before — some 41.4 per cent of the total workforce.

The introduction of statutory maternity leave, pay and allowance in the 1970s made it easier for many women to return to work after their first baby. It is now the norm for women to work, married or not.

There is a trend for women of all kinds to start their families later and return to work sooner. In this generation, women who do not need to be choosing to do so. Double-income families have contributed significantly to the jump in demand for nannies and mothers' helps in the 1980s. Upwardly mobile urban professional couples start out as *Dinkies* — double income, no kids. Then they turn into *Tinkies* — two incomes, nanny and kids.

People still tend to think that those who hire help for the children are wealthy city slickers. Some of them are, of course, but many a middle-income couple, living in the suburbs, in southern England particularly, can afford and find space for a resident nanny, a British or foreign mother's help, or an au-pair in their three-bedroomed semi-detached. Today, people whose parents wouldn't have dreamt of, let alone have been able to afford, live-in help for their children, are doing just that.

There are scant statistics to illustrate it, but judging by what agents, nannies and employers say, the child-care industry is booming. Based on the few figures available, a minimum estimate could be somewhere in excess of 100,000 girls working for families in the UK.

And yet two misconceptions about nannies remain. The first, rooted in the real-life memories of a tiny minority whose families were cherished by devoted women sequestered on the top floor, is that nannying is a vocation.

The second is to be found on stage, screen and in literature: nanny as a cosy omniscient being, as familiar as a piece of nursery furniture. Julie Andrews reinforced the image twice — as a singing and dancing mother's help/governess in *The Sound of Music* and, of course, as Mary Poppins.

Rachel Billington, one of the main children of the Earl of Longford, presented a more realistic picture of nannying when she wrote about the

family's notorious nanny who gave "little whiffs of gas to quieten her over-energetic charges".

The hangover from these images causes problems today for nannies' employers and for nannies themselves. Employers in the main still cannot believe that the nanny will clock off at the end of her working day and lead a normal life. She will not be so devoted that she is always to be found in her room darning a child's sock. Sex and a full social life were never an issue in the good old days.

An old-fashioned nanny was completely reliable because she had nothing else but the children to occupy her. Her employer gave her a secure home for ever. Her fulfilment came from her great pleasure in her charges' development over the years, and from the way everyone relied on her.

Nothing could be more of a contrast to the modern nanny. She may have most evenings free and may live elsewhere. She may spend her weekends as she chooses and may well not accompany the family on holiday. She is unlikely to stay longer than two years.

Historically, nannies and parents were on the same side. Today, too often, nannies and parents are at loggerheads. There is little balance between two extreme views. One faction holds that nannies do too much for too little without enough appreciation from snooty, divorcing, demanding, mean employers. The other side insists that nannies don't know the meaning of work nowadays and they are sex-crazed and over-paid and employers bend over backwards in vain to please these unreliable little mixers. Employment agencies, training colleges, unions, employers and employees pick sides and stick to them. At the heart of the matter is the fact that a nanny's status remains low compared with her peers.

Stems from her willingness to live, in effect, at the beck and call of others. She has joined one of the few jobs left that is closest to unskilled labour. Nannying, like housekeeping or being a butler, seems an anachronism. But it is a popular choice for many today because there are major compensations, particularly when other work is hard to come by.

Unemployment has helped bridge the gap between supply and demand, for mothers' helps at least. Many agencies make monthly recruiting visits north to find girls of 16 or 17, most with little or no specific training in child care. The British are as embarrassed by employing domestic help as they are about death. It is not socially acceptable to describe a nanny as a servant. A nanny "helps out", she is "part of a team", and some-

times "a real friend". The reality of most people's domestic arrangements is comparatively chaotic. There is not room to swing a cat, the parents are devoted to their kids and want them there most of the time. The nanny copes well, but far from infallibly in a maelstrom of unsynchronized plans. The smallness of modern homes means that all personal details are everybody's business.

A nanny's or a mother's help's job is to make sure that the children in her care are nourished emotionally, physically and intellectually. The crucial point is that she is required to do this to someone else's specification. Nannies have to be flexible because there is no right and wrong in child care.

Sensible nannies realize that the job is like many other jobs, albeit with a number of important differences. Long hours, baby-sitting, some weekend work, even when employers give ample warning of their own plans, will play havoc with a girl's social life.

A high turnover can mean that the employer is deliberately, though unconsciously, selecting an inappropriate nanny because she does not want to relinquish the maternal reins. Other employers may not interview perceptively and form an inaccurate picture of the girl's character. They may pretend the job is something it isn't and are found out; they may have delusions about themselves and the sort of people they want to live with or they may be impossibly exacting.

Some employers have no idea what a nanny ought to do. Their nannies continue to leave in droves when they have been ordered to clear up the dog mess and the employers still wonder why. It reflects well on the nannies that these employers are often rich and offer juicy perks, but they desert them notwithstanding.

It takes all sorts to make a nanny and all sorts to hire them. One woman's nanny can be another woman's nightmare. Much of the angst generated by the employer and her nanny or mother's help is self-inflicted. Both have to hold tight to an optimistic and positive approach to their life together. Both sides need self-control, discipline and the will to make the affair long-lasting, which is what it is all about.

It all sounds so simple. But how on earth do you achieve all this?

The Good Nanny Guide by Charlotte Breese and Hilaire Gomer will be published on September 8 by Century (£6.95).

TOMORROW

How to find your ideal nanny, how to be an ideal employer



Happy family: Joanna Mosley, in striped dress, with Nicola, the twins, and the perfect nanny — Alexandra Dutton

'We have meals together, but she knows when to disappear'

FACTORS TO CONSIDER IN MAKING YOUR CHOICE

Your choice is limited by what is available, where you are, whether you are at home or at work — full-time or part-time — how much money you have, how big your home is, and whether you can stand the idea of sharing it with a stranger.

On offer throughout the country if you want your child cared for within your home, although the choice may be limited if you live somewhere remote, there are the following options for child care: a live-in full-time nanny, a live-in part-time nanny, a part-time daily nanny, a full-time daily nanny (nannies may be trained or untrained), a live-in full-time mother's help, a live-in part-time mother's help (probably shared) and au-pairs.

But which of the options available would best suit you?

Trained or untrained? Trained nannies will at least have been exposed to many different theories about child care and should emerge with clear ideas about what is best for the child, rather than what suits his/her career.

They will have been taught about the emotional, physical, intellectual and social growth and well-being of an infant and, with any luck, may have picked up a number of professional tricks of the trade.

The biggest objection to training is that a little knowledge can be a dangerous thing. Many employers and employment agencies complain that girls are given exaggerated ideas of their competence by training courses.

The National Nursery Examination Board (NNEB) is perhaps the most common qualification. It is taken by students at local authority colleges and also at residential fee-paying colleges.

It is the highest-ranking qualification for a trained nanny, and the courses are immensely over-subscribed.

Students are usually 16 when they start, and there is an 85 per cent pass rate. Child-care theory is taught three days a week, with practical experience in a variety of institutions the rest of the time.

There are now only three private nursery-nurse residential colleges, the Rolls-Royces of the nanny world — the Norland Nursery Training College, the Princess Christian College, and the Chiltern Nursery Training College. All do the NNEB curriculum, and they provide the closest experience to working in a private home.

These days there is a whole maze of acronyms other than NNEB. The bewildered employer should know there is no equivalent in this country to the NNEB, as many people fondly imagine in their ads when they advertise for "NNEB or equivalent".

Live-in or live-out? Live-in nannies need more food, light, heat and hot water, and use of the telephone and car, than daily nannies. In addition, they use washing and drying machines, dish-washers, heated rollers and hair dryers, their own TV and a whole host of other appliances on occasion.

They also take up space which would possibly be used for something else. Residential nannies are the most obviously expensive options on offer.

Deprivation of privacy makes some employers decide they prefer daily help. Other possible disadvantages of the live-in help include her personal habits, her manners, her friends and, above all, her boyfriend. All these things will impinge on you and your

family but can be ignored if the nanny leaves at 6pm. The turnover of live-in nannies can be higher than with daily nannies; it is a bigger strain for everyone.

Neither live-in nor live-out nannies do any housework apart from the child's room, clothes, washing, ironing, tidying toys and preparing and clearing up meals. A live-in nanny will also clean her own room and hers and the children's bathroom.

Two major pluses of a live-in nanny are that the employer can get up and organized for the day without having to sort out the children as well. At the other end of the day, she and her husband can go out without having struggled through mass bath-time, safe in the knowledge that a child who wakes up will be tended to by the nanny.

Daily nannies In the nanny world it is a normal progression after a few years to choose daily work. It follows that daily nannies are more mature in every sense. They are mostly trained and experienced, and are wiser and more careful. They are not homesick and they are less close to their employer, which may prevent friction.

Not hearing much about her personal life and problems can turn into a problem. Few employers know when a daily nanny goes to bed at night, if she is experimenting with cocaine or whether her boyfriend beats her. Her lifestyle, unbeknown to you, may have an impact on your children.

The other obvious difficulty is baby-sitting. One of the main reasons that she is a daily nanny is that she wants her evenings to herself, and many employers resort to baby-sitters.

Manny sharing This is an increasingly popular solution. You can have the week between two families, or half the days, or the nanny can live with one family and care for both families' children at the other home.

Both families share the expenses, and although the nanny herself (whether live-in or daily) is paid slightly more for the extra responsibilities and work, it is a lot cheaper per capita.

A few very capable nannies say that they earn most by giving five different families a day a week or variations on this theme, partly for the money and partly for the interest. An enterprising nanny may advertise on local newspapers' notice-boards and organize this grueling regime herself; alternatively, mothers can get together and work it out. A few agencies are happy to co-operate.

It is essential to like and respect the people with whom you share a nanny. If something straightforward, like a car pool, can cause stress, the scope for trouble with a nanny share is great.

Mothers' helps Mothers' helps are a cheaper version of nannies. They are not trained, they do housework, and some of them graduate to being called a nanny after several years' experience. Then they stop doing housework and get paid the same as a trained nanny.

Au-pairs Another form of part-time nanny, au-pairs are shared with their language courses. They are very good value, young, inexperienced with children, want to spend time *en famille*, often have poor English, and do not stay much longer than about six months on average.

New society sets a cracking pace

This will come as a great disappointment to my mother, but it seems clear that I am never going to find a place in *nouvelle society*. It is not that I don't have the abundantly thick hair and bony shoulders essential for membership; it is not that I disappear of power and money — I would absolutely love some — it is just that I don't have the energy.

The *grandes dames* of *nouvelle society*, according to Sharon Churcher in an article in *The New York Times* magazine, work tirelessly for "the arts and sciences". A strange combination you may think, but they are linked by the fact that raising money for Aids or the Metropolitan Museum both give you the excuse to climb into a shocking pink Christian Lacroix dress "accented by a gorgeous Paloma

Picasso necklace". And *nouvelle society* ladies do this four times a week. Don't they ever get tired?

No, they thrive on non-stop action. "The phone just goes and goes," says Mai Hallingby, the wife of an investment banker. "And the mail — just going through it and deciding which invitations to accept, which events I should chair..." Deciding which clothes to wear requires a fair bit of stamina too. Fortunately, Mrs H has an assistant to supervise the cleaning and pressing of her extensive wardrobe — "four closets, arranged by length and season, and a separate rack for those Age of Lacroix evening poufs." And I don't think an evening pouf in this context means what it does in less exalted circles.

Give me the old society every time. I am very fond of dukes, marquises and earls, not because I am a snob but because I am lazy and long ago discovered that families with very old titles wear very old clothes, which means that when I am lucky enough to stay with them I can, too. I do not think that this is a case of conspicuous thrift. It is rather a case of not bestirring yourself to go out and buy a suit when there is a perfectly good one that used to belong to your mother hanging in a wardrobe on the third floor, and who cares about the odd moth-hole anyway?

If you mentioned the name



PENNY PERRICK

of Paloma Picasso to a doyen of the old society she would assume you were talking about your new foal. And she wouldn't dream of slogging all the way to Tiffany's to buy one of Paloma's necklaces since necklaces are what you inherit rather than purchase. Old society, when it remembers, wears very good diamonds in neglected, grumpy settings, although one of my well-bred friends told me recently that she had given all hers to her daughters as she kept on forgetting to put her rings back on after she had washed her hands in somebody's house and "it was such a bore having to telephone the

next morning asking if by any chance anybody had come across the emeralds."

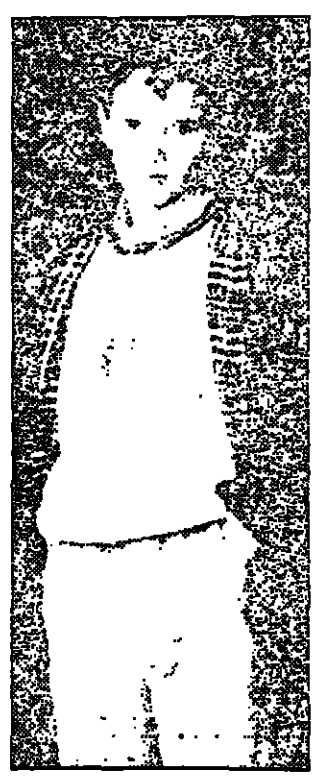
Whereas new society like the Hallingbys start "a little collection of Impressionists", old society hangs on its walls whatever happens to be around, so that you find a Holbein of the first duke jostling against a chalk drawing of a favourite Labrador executed by a great-aunt.

Old society never goes out as it usually lives in the depths of the country, so there is nowhere that you have to bare your shoulders and put on lipstick for. Old society doesn't keep up with things either. I suppose that by now it must have realized that Aids is not a new brand of de-wormer but something more deadly, yet I doubt if old society

would feel that dancing all night at a huge benefit dinner was an acceptable way of dealing with the problem.

Old society seldom reads newspapers or looks at the television as it has no wish to interfere with the wider world. An heir to a very old dukedom scanned a week-old newspaper which he found on my sofa the other day, and came across the news of General Zia's death. "I suppose that's quite important," he said in exactly the same way as he might have remarked: "The storm won't do the hydrangeas any good." Not commendable, of course, but a more wholesome attitude than that of the new society ladies who attend expensive lunches and decide whether they are going to wear their Lacroix for drugs or cancer this season.

FASHION: Tomorrow *The Times* takes a look at gems for juniors in the sartorial stakes. Velvet frocks and kilts may still be mothers' favourites, but today Levi 501s have more appeal for style-conscious kids



TIMES DIARY CLEMENT FREUD

Last Sunday I went to a one-man show which got quite close to making history as a one-man show. Steven Berkoff was billed to appear at the Riverside Studios at 7.30pm — "the earlier you arrive the better is your seat for we don't do individual reservations", said the box-office man who took my Access card number and told me where to pick up my ticket.

At 7 o'clock there were a couple of hundred people in the foyer, hovering, smoking, sipping at drinks (Mr Berkoff's fans tend to be sober citizens).

Come 7.25 we got into a sort of queue at the entrance to the studio and half an hour later staff turned on the illuminated sign that announced "ON AIR". The young man who had sold me my ticket pass by and asked him what was causing the delay. "Mr Berkoff arrived late and has completely redesigned the set," he replied.

At 8pm the doors opened, we hurried in and if the original set had been a king-sized bed draped with tiger-skin rugs, elephant trunks made into occasional tables, art deco lamps and a French door leading to a Breughel landscape, much time-consuming work had clearly been carried out, for the stage was bare — but for a desk covered with a black cloth on which were propped two copies of Mr Berkoff's new book, *America*: there was a chair behind the desk and stage left, some way from the action, a music stand which may or may not have got there intentionally.

Had we been in Italy or Spain the audience would by now have been howling abuse and throwing ripe tomatoes (why is it always ripe tomatoes, and what do they do with these confections if the show is a success?) We sat quietly, and at 8.09, before an audience of 363, a red-haired girl shuffled on stage and said: "Ladies and gentlemen, Mr Steven Berkoff."

From desperation, most of us had by this time read the small print on the back of the ticket which told us, *inter alia*, that the management may make any change whatever in the performance/event. So I suppose we were fortunate that it was not Mr James Tarbuck.

The applause was muted, as merits a performer who arrives 40 minutes late, and he said "Good evening" (not a word of apology about keeping us waiting, not even "I do hope you like my terrifically redesigned set"), picked up his book — a third copy of *America* — saying he wasn't sure what he was going to read to us. How about this? No, perhaps that.

He read sitting at his desk, gesturing a lot with his hands to punctuate words and phrases. *America* seemed to be what was once called a tone poem, now rates as rhythmic prose — the author telling it like it is. Sort of "Los Angeles, by the ocean, cafeteria, meat, waitresses, tomato ketchup squeezed like blood on the open wound of a hamburger, like blood settled on the meat, on the plate, in the Los Angeles cafeteria, have a good day, iced water, clean tables, decaffeinated coffee..." — or something on those lines. His arms moved significantly around him. There were a number of such excerpts.

After 50 minutes he said: "Shall we call it a day or do you want more?" "More," mouthed an elderly man in the front row who may have been his father.

The Pimm's correspondence file grows, though to date there has not been a word from Pimm's itself. Not unlike the Dan Quayle affair, someone throws the first stone and you end up in a rocky. Pimm's reduced the alcoholic content of its drink from 31.4 per cent to 24 per cent without reducing the price. Pimm's PR lady said: "It may be 6.4 per cent less alcohol but it still has a good kick..." and it is what the public wants — less alcoholic drinks. Last week letters pointed out that the reduction was, in fact, more than 20 per cent.

Now a correspondent from Billingshurst writes to say that he has found a very old



bottle of Pimm's in his cellar with a strength of 40 degrees... like whisky, less than gin, 37.5 per cent more alcoholic than today's Pimm's brew.

I just hope distillers don't start watering those good drinks "as a result of consumer research". In a free society we, the people, can dilute as we desire; we need them, the distillers, to provide the alcohol.

For more than 50 years he flashed at people on the TV screens of four continents he never made it in South America — chomped his way around starred Michelin restaurants, tasted the great vintages, shone in a few minor films, in Parliament, on platforms, bandstands, pulpits... and finished life quietly in a black plastic bag outside Harcourt House in Cavendish Square, W1. No ceremony, no flowers... but I shall miss that tooth.

On Thursday night my wristwatch, which has kept absolutely immaculate time for ten years, lost more than six hours. Before this lapse it had needed a forward adjustment of one second at six-weekly intervals — substantially outperforming my son's £1,000 gold Rolex than which it had cost £980 less in a Far Eastern duty-free shop. It has behaved faultlessly since Friday but I do not look at it with the same pride; the element of complete trust has gone. One more lapse and I shall buy the successor model... probably at Gatwick.

Despite the current industrial unrest in Polish cities, Mrs Thatcher's visit to Poland, the first to be made by a British prime minister, is likely to go ahead on October 16 as planned.

A week ago it was feared that a repetition of the repressive measures used earlier this year might lead to its postponement. However, the Polish government's offer to talk to strikers' representatives, including Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader, seems for the moment to have ruled out heavy-handed police action and confirmed the October date.

Disagreements over the programme for the visit also seem to have been ironed out. Mrs Thatcher made it clear from the outset that she would like not only to meet Mr Walesa but to meet him in Gdansk, his home town and cradle of the Solidarity movement. The Polish side has now accepted this.

She and General Jaruzelski will lay a wreath at the memorial on the Westerplatte peninsula, just outside Gdansk (then Danzig), where war broke out in the early morning of September 1, 1939. She will then spend time with Mr Walesa.

If there is one area in which both government and opposition in Poland wholeheartedly agree, it is on Mrs Thatcher's political achievement. Like many out-

siders, Poles see no reason to debate the good and bad of the "ten years" in any detail. Their impression of us is a simple one. It is of a country once despised for its stagnant economy and lack of purpose and then turned, after a period of austerity, into a most surprising success.

A few days ago Warsaw's leading communist weekly, *Polityka*, printed a full-page interview with Norman Tebbit. There was a sure way, the article suggested, of giving new hope to a country in despair — and that was through Thatcherite policies. The Polish official media is full of such articles in which the Thatcher "miracle" is, without any feeling of incongruity, proclaimed as an ideal for communist nations to follow.

The opposition, who refer to her as "Our Iron Lady", are equally enthusiastic. They see her as the Western leader who stood up most defiantly to Brezhnev's aggression and most effectively encouraged the new

Gorbachev leadership towards reform. It is also widely known that she persuaded the Foreign Office to modify its "neutral" stance on responsibility for the Katyn massacre by admitting the "strong circumstantial evidence" pointing to Soviet guilt.

She is credited too with having defended the Solidarity movement at its darkest hour. In October 1984 Father Jerzy Popieluszko was murdered by the Polish secret police. Malcolm Rifkind, due to leave for Poland on a ministerial visit the following month, was instructed by the Prime Minister to visit the priest's grave and take time off from official functions to meet Solidarity leaders. Diplomatic protocol had never known anything like it.

Diplomatic protocol has now changed. British ministers visiting the Soviet bloc nowadays arrange meetings with the opposition as a matter of course, just as they would in a parliamentary democracy. Embassies maintain

contact with opposition leaders and invite them to receptions. Communist governments no longer object and the British example is followed by the entire Western world.

The Thatcher visit will be more than a symbol, though. Poland owes nearly \$40,000 million in foreign debt, inflation is running at 50 per cent and the purchasing power of the average weekly pay packet is no more than £10. Ever since 1956 there has been a cycle of unrest. The cycle is now quickening. And that is dangerous, for the West as well as the Poles.

General Jaruzelski's government has embarked on a programme of reform, but people seem unconvinced of its viability. They look to the West for help, but the West sees little reason to pick an adversary's chestnuts out of the fire. On the other hand, it does not want a conflagration in central Europe that would put an end to East-West détente.

Solidarity is thus brought back to centre stage. Until now the government has vowed that it will never again negotiate with Mr Walesa. It has tried to sideline him, but every time there is a strike the workers' leaders demand the right to establish a Solidarity branch. He will not go away.

The government's line has until now made it impossible for the West to help in the way both sides would like it to. It is not politics; it is business. Any financial source that invested in Poland under present conditions would be failing in its duty to shareholders. One would like to believe that the Polish government now realizes this and is ready to put things right.

Mr Walesa will therefore talk not only about problems in the Gdansk shipyard. He will also seek an agreement under which he would feel able to recommend the government's austerity and reform programme to all his supporters. If he did this, it

might well stand a chance of succeeding. Of course, he would have to be given the right to monitor the programme and criticize its details. And to do this effectively he would need certain facilities: access to reliable information, access to government decision-makers and the power to put forward Solidarity's view, whenever necessary, through the mass media.

Talks along these lines, if they begin, are likely to last many weeks and it could be that Mrs Thatcher will arrive in Poland in the midst of them. Some may find it bizarre, or even hypocritical, for her to defend so energetically the rights of a foreign trade union. That, however, is hardly the point. What counts is that her mission could be of importance to the entire future of an important European country.

The Polish economic puzzle consists of three essential pieces: the communist government, the unofficial trade unions and the sources of financial help. Uniquely, Mrs Thatcher's views can influence all three, so helping Poland out of its present precarious state towards the beginning of a recovery.

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Lord Bethell is vice-chairman of the human rights sub-committee of the European Parliament.

Nicholas Bethell on an opportunity for Britain to end the strife

Thatcher's role in Poland

Bernard Levin

Sour notes from acid house

I had little interest in John Lennon when he was alive, and I have somewhat less now that he is dead. But there is a new biography of him out (*The Lives of John Lennon* by Albert Goldman, published by Bantam Books), and I have been reading the substantial excerpts in the *Daily Mail*, where it has been serialized. In almost every paragraph it has what might be called the ring of inauthenticity, and indeed some of those close to Lennon, notably Mr Paul McCartney, have denounced it as mendacious trash. I am in no position to adjudicate, nor do I care one way or the other, but two trivial coincidences, one on each side of the book's serialization, have led me to a comment.

The first was an item in the "Pop Music" column in the *Spectator* — and those who are surprised to learn that the *Spectator* has a pop music column may rest assured that they are not half so surprised as I am. From it I learn (*nihil in humanum*...) that there is a new kind of pop music, called "hip-hop", which is said by the writer, Marcus Berkman, to be worse than another recent kind of pop music, called "house", but not as bad as an even newer kind called "Baleanic Beat".

Moreover, there is yet another variety, called "acid house" (not the same, it seems, as "house" *tout court*), and it is this that fastened itself upon my attention. For Mr Berkman, who is plainly an expert in all these matters, explains in words simple enough for even people like me to understand what acid house is. But he begins his account like this:

...the Capital Radio disc jockey Graham Dene, when confronted on air with the term "acid house", had no idea what it meant... a career-limiting move if ever I heard one. I shall come back to Mr Dene's problem in a moment, but first I would like to share my newly-won knowledge of acid house music. I offer it in Mr Berkman's terms:

Acid house is... repetitive, mainly electronic and based almost entirely around complex percussion patterns. It's an astonishingly acid music, impossible to listen to... its almost hypnotic effect, combined with the rather psychedelic lighting that always seems to accompany it, make acid house an ideal backdrop to the ingestion of... "recreational drugs".

Mr Berkman goes on to advertise and extol two of these drugs by name and effect, with their current prices; it is perhaps worth pointing out that one of them is among the most dangerous drugs, which has led to psychosis, suicide and murder.

I shall leave the editor of the *Spectator* to pick the bones out of that; my own interest starts further back. It is the impending fate of Mr Graham Dene, the Capital Radio disc jockey who — I think I must tip my hat to Bantam here, and break into capital letters — was *The Man Who Had No Idea of What Acid House Meant*, and *Thus Had His Career Limited*. And what I want to say about Mr Dene is that if that was all it took to limit it, then before the calamity fell upon him he must have had one hell of a career.

Now for the other linked but separate item. Among those who have come to the rescue of John Lennon's posthumous reputation is Mr Ray Coleman, formerly editor-in-chief of *Melody Maker* (the sheer grandeur of the posts held by the people in this story is beginning to give me the creeps). He plainly knew Lennon very well. And in an editorial footnote to his article (in *The Sunday Times*) it was revealed that he "has written a definitive biography of Brian Epstein".

I think this is what we journalists call a "hot flash"; not just any biography of Brian Epstein, but a definitive one. I can see it now: 11 pages of Acknowledgements, 17 of Bibliography and 44 of source-notes, with a massive Index and a promise in the Introduction of a forthcoming edition of the Letters in six volumes. Looking sick, Holroyd, are you? I'm not surprised.

Well, there are my three coconuts: revelations about Lennon, the last word on Brian Epstein, and the career, poised on the brink of the abyss, of Graham Dene. Let's have a shy.



Young people today want music of a kind very different indeed from the traditional forms which, though of course constantly changing, held sway until perhaps the late 1950s. New, far more violent sounds were then demanded and were supplied; these styles, too, changed constantly, indeed more rapidly than ever before, but over the three decades of such development there has been no general reaction, no hint of a return to a less shallow, a more gentle, quality.

Four things above all have marked the course of this

phenomenon, each of them unprecedented. First, the long-playing record and television combined to bring the heroes of the hour (the hour, for most, was brief indeed) to hundreds of millions throughout the western world, and to still-growing numbers elsewhere. Second, and following from this, stupendous fortunes were made and spent, and managers, promoters and producers, many of whom were honest, turned entertainment into a gigantic industry. Third, the world of pop music became ineradicably infected with drugs, despite the appalling number of

drug-related deaths among some of the leading figures (and far more among the obscure ones), very substantial numbers of the music's followers, to a large extent in emulation of their heroes, entered the world of drugs, though it must be recognized, of course, that there were many other routes into that world. Fourth, not just the phenomenon of the pop music industry, but the practitioners, and even the music itself, were taken seriously.

My three items fit like the finest dovetail joints into the world I have — in a necessarily much over-simplified form — depicted. First, if even a handful of the Goldman "revelations" about Lennon are true (and, significantly, Lennon's defenders have concentrated mainly on attacking only one of them), then the world of drugs, squalor and madness which he and many around him inhabited for a substantial part of his life represents a Gehenna that would make the sternest and most puritanical believer in retribution weep tears of blood in pity.

Take next the Capital Radio disc jockey who was condemned, it seems, for not knowing what "acid house" music was. For all I know, poor Mr Dene will truly suffer if there is a gap in his knowledge, but stop and think what he is being condemned for: it is for not knowing that one form of rubbish has been superseded by another (and one, moreover, that is "impossible to listen to"). Could even a disc jockey deserve such a fate? And while we're on this bit of the story, what about Mr Berkman, whose ear is so refined that it can accept acid house and reject hip-hop, and who can gasp in mingled amazement and indignation because Number One in the singles chart is *The Only Way Up*, and Number Seven is *I Need You*.

And finally, the Definitive Epstein. Did you know he died at exactly the same age as Schubert? Do you know what was the epitaph that Grillparzer wrote for him (him Schubert, not him Epstein)? "The art of music has, entombed a great possession, but far fairer hopes". No doubt the definitive biography will make similar claims, and millions will

believe them, including some who have heard of Schubert. I could get all solemn here, and denounce the world that has stolen art from two generations of children, and looks like robbing a good many more. I could lay blame — cynical promoters, indifferent parents, the time that's out of joint.

I could even point out — well, I will, because nobody else ever does — that the acquisition of overnight fortunes by young men and women who have never previously had more than pocket money is, or at any rate has certainly been, a broad highway to disaster. (I wish were horses, beggars could ride, but these days wishes are horses, and the beggars ride to hell.)

But I am not here to provide moral apophthegms to be woven into samplers or burnt into pokerwork shingles. The great thing about both art and entertainment is that nothing precludes anything else; we can all have what we want. On the other hand, there is an element in this story that has nothing to do with art or entertainment, but much to do with wealth, illusion, fantasy, madness, poison and self-destruction.

If you like, the whole of popular music, indeed the whole of the popular scene, is a symptom of something else, though God knows what. Until modern times nobody would have been in any doubt; it would have been clear that the world was coming to an end. Meanwhile, we live in a society which makes gods of people like John Lennon, which limits the career of a disc jockey if he doesn't know what acid-house music is, and which not only thinks that the definitive life of Brian Epstein has been written, but that it matters. Perhaps the world is coming to an end.

Later, I take it all back. Reported, top of the page, in the *Daily Mail*, is the momentous news that "One of the last great Elvis Presley mysteries may have been solved by a retired pilot who claims to have the first record he ever made... Record dealers believe it will fetch well into five figures..."

Commentary • RAYMOND PLANT

Here's the big idea

Critics of the Labour Party have been arguing that it lacks an overarching vision or a "big idea" to underpin the policy review, and that without one it will appear fragmented and opportunistic. The same criticism has been levelled at the new left-of-centre think tank, the Institute for Policy Research.

It has been said that unlike think tanks on the right such as the Centre for Policy Studies, the Institute of Economic Affairs and the Adam Smith Institute, all with a clear free-market approach to policy, the IPR is in search of an idea.

That is a dilemma for the left. It has been so wrong-footed by Thatcherism that its responses have been ad hoc, with no clear ideological vision or clarity of its own. On the face of it there seem to be three general strategies open for the Labour Party: a class-based approach, an interest-group strategy and an appeal to the idea of citizenship.

The class approach is currently exemplified in the leadership challenge of Tony Benn and Eric Heffer. The key idea here is that the Labour movement generally, and the party in particular, has to represent the interests of the working class; interests in society are determined by class, and in a society with the means of production privately owned, there can be no common basis, for example in terms of citizenship, to underpin public policy. Political values reflect interests which are rooted in class.

But this approach rests on two

implausible assumptions. The first is that it is possible to build a majority for socialism on the basis of class interests. Marxists thought that when capitalism had cut its swathe through the middle class there would be an "immense majority" for socialism. However, this has not happened and is wholly unlikely to happen. The industrial working class has shrunk in size and middle-class groups have grown and flourished.

Secondly, the approach assumes that the industrial working class shares a common set of interests which will mobilize it politically. This is false, unless one takes the view that skilled manual workers vote for Mrs Thatcher because the Labour Party is insufficiently left-wing. The numerical logic of the class-based approach is against it in a society in which an electoral majority has to be obtained for political change. If the left falls prey to this strategy it will exist in purist impotence.

The second strategy is to portray Labour as a coalition of interest groups and minority groups which could agree on a common programme. This idea recognizes that there are genuine divergencies of political interest, for example between men and women, black and white, which are not rooted solely in class. Those favouring this approach can point to the GLC which, under Ken Livingstone, secured a good deal of popularity for a policy of this sort.

Whether this should be a basis

for national politics is very doubtful. First of all, it has been tried. It formed part of the rationale for the woeful 1983 Labour election manifesto. Interest groups are after some sectional advantage and any agreed programme is likely to consist of the lowest common denominator of agreement between them.

This is unlikely to meet national needs and certainly does not arise out of a consideration of such. A party which falls victim to interest-group pressures to such a degree will find its policies potentially anarchical. Once government is seen explicitly as a representative of interest groups its policies are likely to respond to the most powerful groups in the coalition. This would be disastrous for Labour.

There is already deep public suspicion of the way the trade unions, representing special or centralized interests, have such a central role in decision-making in the party. To make the party representative of other organized interests is unlikely to restore public confidence in political and collective processes which must be won if an alternative to a market strategy is to be legitimate.

Interest groups are usually after some concession, resource, subsidy or legislation, from government. The cost of such concessions is highly dispersed among the taxpayers but the cumulative costs can be quite high and drive up public expenditure inexorably.

The third strategy is that of emphasizing the idea of citizenship. Currently we are being offered a very attenuated idea of citizenship from the Conservatives. It consists of little more than maintaining law and order as the framework within which individuals can then pursue their own interests.

There now seems to be some recognition of the defects of this approach. Mr Hurd, the Home Secretary, has been talking for some time about social cohesion and we are told that Mrs Thatcher is likely to make this a theme of her speech at the Conservative party conference.

This sense of unease about the extent of individualism could give Labour an ideal opportunity to start expounding its policies in terms of a renewed idea of citizenship. Unlike class or interest groups we all share a common source of identity as citizens. To articulate a new conception of citizenship in relation to the market, the role of the state, welfare, rights and personal achievement is the only way of reaching out from the class redoubt to the rest of society.

Mrs Thatcher has appealed to the other thing we have in common — our self-interest. It may be that the ground here is shifting and a renewed concept of citizenship would allow Labour to pose a real ideological challenge to Mrs Thatcher and give the new Institute for Policy Research an agenda.

The author is a professor of Politics at Southampton University.

AUGUST 29 ON THIS DAY 1953

An article marking the centenary of Sir Charles Napier's death throws light on the inscription at the base of his statue: "Erected by Public Subscription, the most numerous subscribers being Private Soldiers."

'ALMOST A GOD TO OUR MEN'
A BELOVED GENERAL
FROM A CORRESPONDENT

Charles James Napier, who died in Hampshire beneath the old Colours of the 22nd Foot one hundred years ago today, was born in Whitehall — a stone's throw from where his statue now stands — seventy-one years earlier. He was the eldest of a talented family (two of his brothers also became generals) which sprang from remarkable parents — Colonel the Hon George Napier, a most handsome man for whose character and military ability Charles retained a lifelong veneration, and the beautiful Lady Sarah Lennox, whom George III had wanted to marry. Though overshadowed by his day, yet what is remembered of him today? His position as the originator of the punning signal, "Peccavi," has in recent years been surrendered to Mr Punch. Napier's contemporaries knew him better. They knew him as a much-scarred battalion commander in the Peninsular War, as an administrator and a builder of roads in Cephalonia (now proving valuable in earthquake relief), and as an understanding commander of the Northern District

at home in the time of the Chartists. (How much the fact that we had no bloody revolution in this country was due to him, however, is only now being generally appreciated.) But above all, his generation knew him as a turbulent man, about whose head controversy raged: a man popular with soldiers and other underdogs, a man often passed over for promotion because he did not always say the right things. Fortunate the famous historian of the British Army and judge of old-time generals, gave him little credit for the victory of Miani, which is elsewhere generally regarded as one of the greatest feats of arms in the story of British India. Those who were with Napier on February 17, 1843, however, thought otherwise. "The 22nd," he wrote, "gave me three cheers after the fight and one during it. Her Majesty has no honour to give that can equal that."

The historian of the 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment, Colonel Arthur Crookenden, has put Napier's qualities and powers of infection even more strongly than did Fortescue. "It is not too much to say that Napier was almost a god to our men. It was he who first mentioned n.c.s.s. and men in dispatches, and some of our men had the signal honour of being the first so mentioned in English history. He was the first general who had married quarters built for married soldiers — before his time they had to live in the men's barracks — rooms, screened from the troops only by a blanket. He also was the first general who allowed RC soldiers to have their own parade service."

It is small wonder, then, that the 22nd Regimental adopted in his honour "Who waits for his Charley" as their quickstep.



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone: 01-782 5000

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

AFTER EXTRADITION

The extradition of Robert Russell by the Irish Republic has drawn a predictable response. Bombs and bullets have disfigured the face of Ulster, while Loyalist leaders have questioned the significance of his homecoming. The return of Russell has none the less pointed the way forward for the British and Irish governments.

Unionists can be forgiven for their scepticism. Russell was serving a 20-year sentence for attempted murder when he fled from the Maze in 1983. He has just finished a prison term in the South, after trying to escape from Portlaoise jail three years ago. If the Republic had not been ready to return a convicted criminal with so embarrassing a record of escapology, who would they extradite?

He was returned, however, despite legal and emotional pressure to let him go, and became the second person within days to make the journey north under Garda escort. That alone offers hope that co-operation across the border can be strengthened. As the IRA itself understands, that must be the way to defeat the terrorists. Other methods, including the pursuit of a military solution, will not succeed.

The present peak of violence needs to be seen in perspective. Depressing though it is after 20 years of trouble, it is still overshadowed by the mayhem of 15 years ago. That may be cold comfort to those who have to live with it, but it means that there are no grounds for panic. It is a time for hard thinking, but also for cool judgement in Whitehall.

The aim must still be to reduce the violence to what Stormont likes to call "an acceptable level". At times that blurred objective seemed to be in sight — only to vanish beneath a hail of bricks and bombs.

The major weakness in security is the border. However good the intelligence operation in the North, the ease with which men and munitions can move across it makes nonsense of conventional detection and surveillance. If the border could only be closed, the IRA's self-appointed task would be much harder.

But its physical closure would be nearly impossible, as the failure of the army's attempt to crater border roads showed in the 1970s. Electronic monitoring has since been tried but has proved insufficiently discriminating. Covert surveillance (largely by the SAS) has had

some success, but for obvious reasons has been of limited scope.

It would be theoretically possible to build a chain of watchtowers along the 300-mile border, with night vision equipment and powerful searchlights. But the watchtowers themselves would need manning and defending — and could do more political damage than their worth. And even if the land border were secure, the heavily indented coastline could easily be penetrated.

The preferable alternative is to make the Irish border seem irrelevant. If intelligence is equally effective on both sides and if extradition procedures are seen to work, the Provisionals can be kept on the run. Sixteen years ago, the Army began to exert a degree of control by flushing them out of their power bases. Now acting in support of the RUC, it needs still more co-operation from the South. The two Irelands need to act in unison.

Their objective should be a security commission, as Dr David Owen proposed last week, to take control of the Ulster border area. Shared intelligence, standardized equipment, co-ordinated patrolling and the rights of "hot pursuit" on either side of it are essential.

Far from campaigning against the Anglo-Irish Agreement, the governments should be encouraged to build upon it. The more closely London can work with Dublin on security, the more likely it will be to win international support for its endeavour. In an American election year, that is not irrelevant.

This would require more co-operation from Irish judges, and the rejection of extradition warrants on technical grounds must be speedily ended. The Irish Prime Minister, Mr Charles Haughey, must know that the IRA threat is double-edged and that the future prosperity of the Republic, as well as that of Ulster, depends on its removal.

The other security weakness is the difficulty of collecting evidence to secure convictions for terrorism. There are strong grounds for ending a suspect's "right of silence" on terrorist charges. But this too could not be done without Dublin's tacit blessing and the co-operation of Irish judges. In court and out, there is a compelling need for both governments to work together. If they do not, all Ireland will suffer.

PRACTICE FOR POWER

The death of President Zia has provided Pakistan's opposition parties with their greatest opportunity to win power. But it also tests their credibility as a political force in a way in which it has never before been tested.

The vacuum left by General Zia, the absence of any obvious successor within his system and the apparent willingness of the new army chief to permit the restoration of democracy are evidence of the changed circumstances in which the country's civilian politicians must operate. Yet those same circumstances worry the caretaker administration and contribute to the uncertainty surrounding the political transition.

Feverish rumours of impending coups and threats of political conspiracies have swept through Pakistan since the general's death. How this twilight period is resolved depends as much on the aspiring civilians as it does on the present government. They will have to prove their suitability before they are allowed to assume power.

In their favour is the manner of Pakistan's response to General Zia's death. Initial shock mingled with relief has given way to expectation. It is commonly accepted that the Zia era is over. After 11 years, there is a general desire for change. With elections scheduled for November, the people or Pakistan want full democracy.

The problem is that the promised elections are still scheduled to take place on a non-party basis. The power to change that lies with the caretaker government, but these are men loyal to Zia's legacy.

Earlier hints from the new army chief and the acting president that they supported party-based elections have been disputed. But even if General Baig and President Ishaq Khan continue to want free and fair polls contested by all parties, several members of the caretaker government have made their opposition known and lobbied for General Baig's backing. At best, the caretaker government is split on the issue.

In view of this, the political parties have to be careful how they proceed. They must ensure their participation in the promised polls without pushing the present government into a

corner from which its only escape is a ban. That means that Miss Bhutto, who symbolizes the opposition to her friends and her foes, must judiciously balance her comments and actions.

From her experience in 1986, when tumultuous crowds greeted her return home but failed to dislodge President Zia's government, Miss Bhutto knows that her supporters cannot be relied upon to emulate the achievement of "people's power" in the Philippines. Nor can the precedents set in Haiti or South Korea in 1987 necessarily be ruled out. As in Haiti, Zia loyalists in the army could still intervene. As in Korea, opposition splits could allow the regime's favoured party to slide into power.

The immediate challenge lies in how Miss Bhutto and the opposition respond to the split in the Muslim League. This was the party created by President Zia's former prime minister, Mr Junejo, which some members of the caretaker government hope to use if party-based polls are held.

In electoral terms, its divisions play to the opposition's advantage. But if the anti-Zia Junejo faction allies with the opposition parties, the regime could feel itself threatened. If, on the other hand, Mr Junejo is refused co-operation, he could be driven back to the colleagues he has just left. That would strengthen the caretaker regime's hopes of staying in power.

Miss Bhutto has indicated that she may be able to rise to the challenge. She wisely refused to criticize the post-Zia army high command and offered to co-operate with the caretaker government in restoring democracy. She announced that she would seek an electoral alliance with the rest of the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy. She also declared her determination to broaden her party's appeal, assuaging some of the concern felt by the industrial, bureaucratic, military and trading interests which united to depose her father 11 years ago.

She will need to show the same political adroitness, and more, for at least three more months. Any slip could shatter her hopes of power. Success, on the other hand, would be the best proof possible of her suitability to lead Pakistan.

End of the pier?

From Mr Jonathan Ray
Sir, I have just spent a few days in Brighton and came away thoroughly depressed at the sorry sight of the West Pier, the only grade I-listed pier in the UK. It looks as though the structure will soon collapse in a rusty heap.

I understand that the pier's owners are a charitable trust fund. Why don't they show some imagination and fun, and donate it to Princess Beatrix of York as a christening present, on the understanding that it is named "Princess Beatrix Pier" and that some public figure is persuaded to take on the role of fund-raiser. Sir Richard Attenborough, for example, may care to take it on — he made his name in the film *Brighton Rock* and directed *Oh, what a Lovely War!* on the West Pier itself.

The trust could then approach big firms and industries along the lines of those approached for the manufacture and furnishing of Queen Mary's dolls' house, where firms gave their services free in the interest of making something of beauty for someone the country cared about.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN RAY,
K1 Albany,
Piccadilly, W1.
August 23.

Dressed as lamb

From Mrs Sara Spillius
Sir, I have just realised that we have an F registration car number. The difference is that the F is at the end not at the beginning. This makes its age 21.

Yours faithfully,
SARA SPILLIUS,
Flat 3,
25 Cleveland Square, W2.
August 22.

Motorway dangers

From Professor Emeritus J. L. M. Morrison
Sir, Anthony Grant (August 22) discussing the appalling overcrowding of the M25, states that:

In most cases the fault is excessive speed, driving too close behind another vehicle. It is perfectly simple to fit vehicles with devices which will demonstrate that they are too close.

Such a device would at the very least either have to be aware of, and take into account, the road surface and its condition, the relative braking capabilities of both the vehicles involved, the speed at which they were travelling, and the reaction time of the following driver, or else to make an adequate allowance at all times for the worst combination of all these circumstances.

The second of these alternatives would undoubtedly reduce overcrowding, since all the vehicles would be very widely spaced indeed, but the motorway would accommodate so little traffic that it would be almost useless; the first would, in my view, require a device of extreme complexity if indeed it could be made to work at all. Simple? Surely not.

The Highway Code suggests that "on the open road, in good conditions, a gap of one yard for

Army action in Northern Ireland

From Major-General P. M. Davies
Sir, I was disturbed by the somewhat emotive tone expressed by Colonel Philip Howes in his letter (August 25) about the Ballygawley tragedy.

Whilst quick to blame the politicians for a lapse in security and for a sense of self-deception about the scale and difficulty of operations facing the security forces in Northern Ireland, he fails to highlight one of the major problems.

It is that a unit such as the 1st Battalion The Light Infantry is one of several units on a resident two-year tour, as opposed to an emergency four-month tour. The latter category of unit can sustain a very high state of operational activity and awareness during a tour in Ulster which cannot and indeed should not be matched by a unit on a "normal" two-year tour of duty.

The length of a unit's tour is no excuse for slackness in matters of security, as postulated by Merlyn Rees, former secretary of state for Northern Ireland (report, August 24) but nevertheless it is an inescapable fact that the adrenalin flows faster during four months than it possibly can over two years.

There is therefore perhaps an argument to increase the roulement of units on emergency tours in Ulster, but there would be very serious penalties of turbulence, separation and lack of intelligence continuity.

Having commanded my battalion in South Armagh on an emergency tour (1975-76) I believe that during the present level of high-intensity operations by the IRA there is no solution but to match them and keep the terrorists off-balance. It is unreasonable to suggest that this can be done by totally overstretching soldiers on a two-year tour accompanied by their families.

Finally, I do not subscribe to the colonel's views on internment, interrogation, the death penalty, or his apparent wish to destroy the Anglo-Irish Agreement, which is the most promising available catalyst for a political solution to a tragic continuing problem.

Yours faithfully,
P. M. DAVIES,
Army and Navy Club,
36-39 Pall Mall, SW1,
August 25.

Wrong numbers

From Mr Alan Wood
Sir, Does the Government really believe that Service personnel abroad will be better protected against terrorist attacks if their cars have standard British number plates? Terrorist groups must be fully aware of the bases at which British personnel are stationed, and the presence in the area of large numbers of vehicles with British plates will surely make them just as obvious targets as they ever were.

A more sensible solution would be to make them indistinguishable from any other vehicles by giving them standard number plates of the foreign country concerned.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN WOOD,
Newlands, Much Birch,
Hereford.
August 24.

Cenotaph respects

From Mr K. T. Alexander
Sir, With regard to recent correspondence concerning cenotaphs, I should like to report that at 11.30 this morning I was privileged to observe, in Kingston-upon-Thames, two squaddies pause before, then salute the war memorial.

I freely confess to a lump in my throat.

I remain, Sir, yours etc,
K. T. ALEXANDER,
Parson's Green Books,
273 New Kings Road, SW6,
August 15.

Measure for measure

From Mr John Merriam
Sir, Your correspondent, Professor A. J. E. Cave (August 24), may be interested to know that the use of the "line" as a unit of length survived long after the middle of the last century.

Immediately before the last war the normal unit used in the button-making trade was the "line", equal to 1/16 inch. It was used to define both the diameter and thickness of discs of plastics material which were subsequently shaped into buttons.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MERRIAM,
Greenways, Braiswick,
Colchester, Essex.

Programme error

From Mr David W. Smith
Sir, At the risk of promoting litigation between ourselves and the said enemy might I relate the following. A journalist friend had occasion to mention the name of one of Scotland's oldest and most respected law firms, Ross, Harper and Murphy in an article. She then set her word processor to check the spelling of the completed piece and was amused to find that, having no dictionary of proper names, it offered as an alternative the wholly inappropriate Robs, Hamper and Murky.

Has anyone else's word processor spouted unbidden any other potentially libellous *faux pas*, I wonder?

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SMITH,
21 New King Street,
Bath, Avon.

Putting Burma beyond the pale

From Mr Kyaw Tint
Sir, I am a Burmese citizen privileged to be studying abroad. When I write "privileged" I mean that I am one of the few Burmese lucky enough to be issued with a passport and given permission to go abroad (albeit to two countries only).

However, I am also privileged in another way. I have been able to view the recent disturbances in Burma from afar, with one eye on how the world has reacted to this trying time for the Burmese people. In the past few months many thousands of Burmese have given their lives for the cause of democracy — men, women and children machine-gunned or bayoneted in the streets of the nation's towns and cities.

Along with the thousands of others who have been injured or interned, those people declared their willingness to sacrifice everything to overthrow the present regime of the BSPP (Burma Socialist Programme Party). The reaction of the world, however, seemed to say the least. While people were dying the governments of the democratic world, who are usually so vociferous in their denunciations of civil rights violations in Russia, Poland, Israel, South Africa and Nicaragua etc., were curiously silent. Apart from the US Government, who made a half-hearted appeal to the regime to stop the killing, the army and police were able to carry out their murderous suppression of the demonstrators with moral impunity.

Perhaps the reaction of the Japanese Government, one of the current regime's biggest aid donors, is typical of the way the world is thinking when they requested the Burmese Government to "restore order". Unfortunately the world is now only too well aware how that request has been interpreted.

The protests and killings of the last few months have brought about two astonishing and swift changes of leadership. First Ne Win, the evil mastermind behind the corrupt and totalitarian system and its leader for 26 years, stepped down in favour of Sein Lwin.

Then Sein Lwin in turn was forced out by the sheer force of hatred which the Burmese people feel for this man who is said to be responsible for the deaths of many hundreds of Burmese.

Now the military power brokers behind the Government have presented Dr Maung Maung as a liberal president capable of bringing about the much-needed reforms in the political and economic system. Indeed, Maung Maung has all the apparent qualifications of a good leader — a Western university education, a

'Private' fire-fighting

From Fireman P. Osborne
Sir, Following David Walker's report (early editions, August 17) of the proposals by the director of the Institute of Economic Affairs for partial privatisation of the fire brigade, I am writing to put an alternative to Graham Mather's views.

The firemen's pay formula was agreed with Mr Callaghan to provide a basis for calculating our pay compared to others, thereby negating the need for firemen ever to have to strike over pay again. If Mr Mather has his way, who would want to work for a low-wage brigade when more could be earned in a town elsewhere?

His comical "cats up trees" comment only further proves his ignorance: this function is now carried out by the RSPCA. The brigade is called only as a last resort. How many could afford a

Don't call us . . .

From Mr Adrian Brodwin
Sir, I have little doubt that Mr John Upchurch's assumption (August 15) regarding meaningless business phrases is indeed correct, but past experience leads me to the conclusion that close behind in third place is, "We must meet for lunch some time".

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN BRODWIN,
93 Kinsley Way, N2,
August 15.

From Mr Guy Beddington
Sir, While I do not doubt the claim of Mr Upchurch, from the private sector I hesitate to accept the truth of, but am grateful for the sincerity and compassion implicit in the sentence: "The Editor thanks you for your letter which he read with interest".

Yours faithfully,
GUY BEDDINGTON,
Jubilee, Rue de la Prison,
Bargemon,
Var, France,
August 16.

A-level results

From Mr Anthony Poole
Sir, Blame not the A-level boards (Mr Cockman's letter this morning). Being responsible for the dispatch of results, which duly arrived by first post from all three boards on the morning of August 18, I inserted them into the candidates' pre-addressed envelopes and posted them by 11 o'clock that same morning at our local sorting office.

Two of those envelopes were identically addressed to my own younger son, reflecting subjects taken from two different boards.

Child first in Olympic upset

From Mrs Hilary Gripton
Sir, I read with interest the comments of Ann Kent and the child-care experts in today's article (August 24). "Who runs the family?" As a mother who gave up a good career on the birth of my daughter, and in view of the comment in the article that Paula Fudge had expected and was prepared to give up running in international competitions when she gave birth, it seems to me that all she is now doing is implementing her initial decision that child should come before career, albeit four years later.

Making that initial decision would have been the difficult thing for her. I feel. To now implement it suggests that she is confident that it is the right choice for herself and her daughter.

I would imagine that the last four years of running have been regarded by Paula Fudge as a "bonus" and I would not envisage that this decision will cause problems between mother and daughter in later years.

Yours faithfully,
HILARY GRIPTON,
55 Main Street,
Thornor,
Leeds, West Yorkshire,
August 24.

From Mrs Vivien Rink
Sir, I feel outraged that Paula Fudge has forfeited her Olympic place in favour of her four-year-old daughter, Rachel. It sounds a very misplaced relationship, where the four-year-old has so much influence over the mother. I feel that I can speak with authority, working as a counsellor and being familiar with family dynamics and person growth.

A child's development plays a major part in his/her future life. I can only think that Rachel may suffer from guilt for many years to come: she has deprived her mother of that well-earned Olympic place. A child also needs to learn to become independent.

The most important thing in a family unit is the couple. They are the container, the focus, and the other members should fit in accordingly.

Yours sincerely,
VIVIEN RINK,
Bhandar, 20 Regent Road,
Lostock,
Bolton, Lancashire,
August 24.

From Mr Dora Black and Dr Elizabeth Arbiter
Sir, Paula Fudge is right to give up the Olympics. Only to her daughter is she unique and a 12-day absence for a four-year-old who has already had one traumatic separation might be experienced as a devastating and bewildering abandonment and risk affecting her trust in adults.

There will be other triumphs for Paula, but in the circumstances you describe, we, as child psychiatrists who have reared or are rearing children, applaud her decision.

Yours faithfully,
DORA BLACK (consultant),
ELIZABETH ARBITER
(Registrar),
Department of Child Psychiatry,
Royal Free Hospital,
Pond Street,
Hampstead, NW3,
August 26.

From Mr Rodney Bewes
Sir, Wednesday, August 24, matinee day, and I have to do the play twice. On September 3 I'll have been in *And Then There Were None*, Agatha Christie's thriller, for a year.

Such a lovely day yesterday, rowing a skiff up the river with my triplet sons, Joe, Tom and Billy. Today my wife works and, as I'm about to leave at midday, Billy says, "Don't go Dad, don't leave us".

The story of Paula Fudge, who has turned down a chance to represent her country at the Olympic Games because her four-year-old daughter said "Don't go mummy" (front page of *The Times* yesterday) flashes to mind and I turn up the collar of my raincoat and hurry off to do what I have to do . . . be sick!

Yours sincerely,
RODNEY BEWES,
The Strand Theatre,
Aldwych, WC2,
August 24.

On the run

From Mrs Isabel Shepherd
Sir, The most striking warning to motorists that I have ever seen is in Grove Park, South London. It appears at the roadside in school holiday time and it reads, "Dead, Slow, Live Kids".

Yours sincerely,
ISOBEL SHEPHERD,
9 The Orchard, SE3,
August 19.

Coming and goings

From Mr G. F. Gomme
Sir, Any reader who may be tempted by Mr Nottage's letter (August 19) to leave a train at a temporary stop should be careful.

Some years ago I left our local train to buy a newspaper. Having less time than I thought I had to jump into the carriage nearest to the news-stand and walked back to my seat along the corridor. My fellow passengers, thinking that I had missed the train, had thoughtfully thrown my briefcase and umbrella on to the platform.

Yours faithfully,
G. F. GOMME,
Terrick House,
Aylesbury,
Buckinghamshire,
August 26.



COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE
August 28: Divine Service was held at Crathie Parish Church this morning.

The Right Reverend Professor James Whyte preached the sermon.

The Hon Rupert Fairfax had the honour of being received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested him with the insignia of a Member of the Royal Victorian Order.

CLARENCE HOUSE
August 27: Lady Jean Rankin has succeeded Ruth, Lady Fermoy as Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

The Princess Royal will visit Toronto to attend the Royal Winter Fair from November 16 to 18.

The Princess Royal, Patron of the Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust, will attend a luncheon given by the trust at Les Auges Manor, Jersey, on December 8.

The Duchess of Gloucester will visit Monte Carlo on November 30 to attend a gala concert in aid of the Wishing Well Appeal for the re-development of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street.

Birthdays today
Sir Richard Attenborough, actor, producer and director, 65; Mrs Dorothy Carter, energy consultant, 60; Mr Evelyn de Rothschild, chairman, N.M. Rothschild and Sons, 57; Alderman Dame Mary Donaldson, former Lord Mayor of London, 67; Sir Nigel Foulkes, former chairman, Civil Aviation Authority, 69; Mr Elliott Gould, actor, 50; Professor Denis Hay, historian, 73; Mr Lenny Henry, comedian, 30; Mr James Hunt, racing driver, 41; Mr M.J. Hussey, chairman, Board of Governors of the BBC, 65; Lord King of Warrnaby, 70; Mr Michael Jackson, singer, 30; Mr J.H.M. Mackenzie, former chairman, London and Northern Group, 63; Mr Norman Platt, founder, Kent Opera, 68.

Appointments in the Forces
Royal Navy
CAPTAINS: J S Chestnut - Sultan, 12.9.88.
COMMANDERS: G S Reid - MOD Central Staff, 2.9.88; T Ward - MOD London, 16.9.88; P Watts - Royal Naval School, 28.10.88.

The Army
BRIGADIER: J B Statham - To be DACC, 31.8.88.
COLONELS: G R Maltby - To be DACC, 31.8.88; T Ward - To be DACC, 31.8.88; P Watts - To be DACC, 31.8.88.

LEUTENANT COLONELS: G E J Smith - To be MOD, 29.8.88; D J Napper - To be MOD, 29.8.88; D J Napper - To be MOD, 29.8.88; D J Napper - To be MOD, 29.8.88.

ROYAL AIR FORCE
CAPTAINS: M A Wober - To be MOD, 29.8.88; M A Wober - To be MOD, 29.8.88; M A Wober - To be MOD, 29.8.88.

WING COMMANDER: G C Haines - To be MOD, 29.8.88; G C Haines - To be MOD, 29.8.88; G C Haines - To be MOD, 29.8.88.

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Arthur Peacocke

Challenge of the new biology

Ever since the encounter in 1860 of T. H. Huxley with Bishop Wilberforce at the Oxford meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science on Darwin's ideas, "God" and "Biology" have been supposed to be the badges of two embattled armies.

So entrenched is this view that biologists, unlike physicists and astronomers, are reputed to be more anti-religious than most other scientists.

The matter is far from trivial either for the Christian religion or for our culture in general. For ever since the discovery of the structure of DNA in 1953, the world of science has been dominated by the explosive growth of the "new biology".

The discovery of the molecular basis of heredity and of other functions of living organisms, sociobiology, the neuro-sciences and other developments have generated an entirely new context for our perception of nature, humanity and God by deepening our understanding of the biological phase of cosmic evolution.

All the evidence shows that, since the "hot big bang" 10,000 million years or so ago, energy and matter have been transformed continuously into forms which are stable at lower and lower temperatures. The new biology has provided sound evidence for the kind of self-reproducing molecular systems that make up living organisms. It has been able to demonstrate the continuity of forms at the molecular level from single cells up to *homo sapiens*.

This interconnected evolution of increasingly complex living organisms has been established by entirely new evidence in recent years. Family trees, can be established by chemical investigation of the particular sequences of the units strung together in proteins and nucleic acids which are obtained from different species. These family trees agree with and amplify those earlier deduced by biologists.

The evolutionary process is continuous and there are no gaps in which an intervening "god" needs to be inserted to explain what happened.

Controversies among biologists about

how evolution actually operates must not delude us into thinking there is any doubt about this historical interconnectedness of all living organisms. We now understand how it is that matter can have a natural tendency to adopt more complex forms, on the surface of our Earth irradiated by the energy of its own sun. So the stuff of the world has an inherent built-in capability, by purely physico-chemical means, of becoming more complex, self-reproducing - and so living.

These discoveries raise no difficulties for belief in God as Creator that were not raised by Darwin's original ideas which, contrary to the mythology, were surprisingly and rapidly taken into Christian theology, especially in the Church of England, which recognized, as one Anglican divine, Aubrey Moore, put it in 1891: "Darwinism appeared and, under the disguise of a foe, did the work of a friend. Either God is everywhere present in nature, or He is nowhere."

The Judeo-Christian doctrine of God as Creator is not a response to the problem of the origin of the universe in time but a response to the question: "Why is there anything at all?" All is dependent on God who is the Creator of time, as well as of space, matter and energy.

What the discovery of biological evolution did in Darwin's day, and does ever more so for ours, with the new panorama of cosmic molecular and biological evolution, is to remind us that God is all-the-time Creator in and through the very processes themselves. The creative processes of the world are God expressing himself - perhaps more aptly, *herself* - as Creator (Creatrix).

In God, as St Paul said at Athens, "we live and move and have our being" - there is "more to" God than the world, but God is present in, with and under all the processes of the world, to build up, to break down, and to renew again in new forms of life. And we have to accept that it is through the interplay of what we call chance and law that God creates.

So the new perspective can provide an enrichment of our understandings of God's relation to the world - a drawing

out in a contemporary context of classical themes of Christian theism. Any anti-theistic thrust of the new biology does not come from evolution as such. In fact, this comes more from the interpretation of living organisms in terms of molecular systems and processes.

Does this not mean, some argue, that biology is "nothing but physics and chemistry"? That "sociology is nothing but biology" and so on? But are the atoms and molecules into which we, and all living organisms, can be decomposed the only realities? Here we touch on the debate about the relation of sciences dealing with more complex systems to those dealing with simpler entities.

So the crunch question becomes: does the "new biology" itself vindicate a materialistic reduction of all talk about living organisms, including ourselves, to talk about atoms and molecules?

My own view, which is shared by many non-theist biologists and philosophers, is that this is not so.

As one goes up the scale of complexity each level of organization of the stuff of the world displays new emergent properties and activities distinctive of that new level. Notably, at the heart of the new biological revolution itself, one has to recognize that the ability of DNA to convey genetic "information" is a new capacity that emerges with the special DNA structures - and "information-carrying" is not a chemical concept.

Along such lines, I believe, the language and concepts appropriate to higher organisms, and more particularly to self-conscious persons, can be vindicated.

So then it becomes a real and proper question to ask: "What kind of universe is it if, after aeons of time, the stuff of the world can become self-conscious persons who can think, create, do right and wrong, - and can pray?" So the new biology sharpens and makes more urgent than ever before those questions to which the religious quest of humanity has perennially addressed itself.

The Rev Dr Arthur Peacocke is an Anglican priest, Director of the Ian Ramsey Centre, St Cross College, Oxford and Warden of the Society of Ordained Scientists. His most recent book is *God and the New Biology*.

OBITUARY

LORD PEART

British agriculture and the Common Market



Lord Peart, PC, who died on August 26, at the age of 74, was, as Mr Fred Peart, a long-serving Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in the Harold Wilson administrations of the 1960s and 1970s, and was in addition Leader of both the House of Commons and the House of Lords.

As Minister of Agriculture from 1964 to 1968 and again from 1974 to 1976 Peart was converted from a belief in the Commonwealth connection to a conviction that Britain's interests were best served by membership of the EEC.

He was never ideologically opposed to the Common Market, having returned from wartime service as an artillery officer in north Africa and Italy persuaded that there must be some form of European political unity for the sake of peace.

But following his election in 1945 as MP for the Workington division of Cumberland he was appointed parliamentary private secretary to Tom Williams, the Minister of Agriculture who shaped post-war British farming.

When Peart became Minister of Agriculture for the first time in October 1964, he took over the Williams system, as amended by Conservative ministers, determined to operate it in the interests of British farmers and consumers. He did not doubt that the Common Agricultural Policy would be harmful to both, depriving farmers of security and raising consumers' food bills by closing the door to cheap Commonwealth imports.

Threatened by the devaluation of the pound, the 1966-1970 Labour government executed a desperate volte-face and applied for EEC membership. Peart was one of four Cabinet ministers who stubbornly resisted. He adhered to the view that the Williams balance between producer and consumer, with access to cheap world food, was preferable to the producers' charter that the French insisted on in the CAP.

The change in his attitude began in April 1974, when with James Callaghan he opened Labour's renegotiation of the terms of United Kingdom membership. He found that Commonwealth beef and sugar producers wanted to exploit rising world prices to the full and that their governments offered only grudging concessions to help Britain obtain supplies at cut rates.

The EEC, on the other

hand, offered immediate practical help. He decided that political and commercial togetherness formed part of the same pattern.

Thomas Frederick Peart was born on April 30, 1914. He was educated at Crook Council School, Wolsingham Grammar School, the Henry Smith Secondary School, Hartlepool, and Bede College, Durham University, where he took his B.Sc., and was President of the Union. He was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple and became a schoolmaster and a lecturer on economics.

Peart, who had joined the Labour Party in 1930, served from 1937 to 1940 on Easington Rural District Council. He was prospective parliamentary candidate for Scarborough and Whitby in 1938-39 and for Sunderland from 1939 to 1945.

His association with Tom Williams, whose FPS he remained for six years, was to influence his entire political career. Agriculture was his principal concern, in and out of office, apart from intervals which mainly had to do with membership of the Council of Europe, and eventually it was the European Committee for Agriculture of which he was chairman.

He had been vice-president of the National Association of Labour Teachers and was keenly interested in education. For a time he was Opposition spokesman on education and science, but in 1961 he was transferred to the post of shadow Minister of Agriculture and when Labour came to power in 1964 he emerged from the shadow into the reality of this office.

Peart, a jovial man with a liking for open-air recreation and a taste for racing, got on well with farmers and achieved a considerable understanding of them and of the problems of the industry. In 1968 he successfully weathered what is perhaps the most

severe storm an agricultural minister can encounter: a serious epidemic of foot and mouth disease.

Harold Wilson was convinced that he had the qualities needed by a Leader of the House of Commons and in 1968 gave him that task, first as Lord Privy Seal and later as Lord President of the Council. But Peart, though competent, was never adroit and failed to develop the popularity and good will he enjoyed on both sides of the House into political authority.

After the 1970 general election he was in turn Opposition spokesman on House of Commons matters, agriculture and defence. His acceptance in 1971 of a directorship with the Faststock Marketing Corporation probably damaged his reputation in the eyes of Labour MPs, notoriously suspicious of colleagues who agree to such appointments. This may have been among the factors accounting for his surprise defeat in the elections for the shadow Cabinet in 1973.

With Labour's return to power in 1974 he was again made Minister of Agriculture and remained in that post until, in September, 1976, he was given a life peerage and succeeded Lord Shepherd as Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Lords. Following the victory of the Conservatives in the general election of 1979 he became leader of the Opposition peers, continuing until 1982, when Lord Cledwyn was elected to succeed him.

In the same year he assumed the chairmanship of the Retail Consortium and the presidency of the British Karate Board. The latter appointment reflected his life-long enthusiasm for sport. In his younger days he had been a keen athlete and had represented Durham University at football and boxing. His fitness served him well, when, in 1984 he was attacked by two armed robbers who had broken into his home. He put up a spirited fight before being hit over the head with a pistol, as he barred their way.

During his membership of the Council of Europe Peart was vice-chairman of the Scientific and Cultural Committee. He was Privy Council member on the Council of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, and from 1976 to 1980 chairman of the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development.

His wife, whom he married in 1945, and their only son survive him.

PROFESSOR A. M. HONEYMAN

Professor Alexander Mackie Honeyman, Professor of Hebrew and Oriental Languages in the University of St Andrews from 1936 until 1967, died on August 25. He was 80.

Honeyman was born on November 25, 1907 at Cupar, Fife within a few miles of St Andrews, where his entire career, from his undergraduate days to retirement, was spent. His father owned a flourishing saddler's business at Cupar.

He gained first class honours in classics and Hebrew and subsequently won a Commonwealth fellowship to the University of Chicago where he obtained his PhD in 1934.

After some months at Jerusalem, where he added a knowledge of modern Hebrew to his excellent equipment in ancient Semitic languages, he returned to St Andrews in 1935, at the time when the incumbent of the Hebrew Chair transferred to Edinburgh University. After a year's interval as interim lecturer in Hebrew, Honeyman

was appointed to the Professorship of Hebrew and Oriental Languages before his 29th birthday.

It was a wondrously appropriate appointment on the basis of promise rather than achievement, but there is little doubt that he was the best person then available.

Honeyman was a man of genuine learning, a scholar of the old school, a perfectionist who distrusted the trend to publish too readily. He never wrote a book, but he established a reputation for sound scholarship by a few well directed forays into Semitic epigraphy, particularly Phoenician and South Arabian inscriptions.

In 1950 he delivered the British Academy's prestigious Schweich lectures but never produced the text for publication. He travelled in South Arabia in the 1950s, in company with the great American Semitist, W. F. Albright, and brought back a goodly number of latex squeezes of ancient South Arabian inscriptions which have, unfortunately, remained unstudied and unpublished.

Costas Taktis, the Greek author best known for his novel *The Third Wedding*, has been found dead at his Athens home. He was 61.

Taktis, who was born in Thessaloniki, studied law before becoming a full-time writer and translator. He wrote *The Third Wedding*, a family saga set against a background of the German Occupation in the Second World War and the subsequent horrors of civil strife, in 1962 and published it at his own expense.

Greek critical opinion ignored it and it sold few copies. But when it was translated into English in 1967 it gained a far more sympathetic hearing from reviewers in this country, who admired its humorous insights and its lively treatment of the national character.

Taktis was also known for his translations of classical drama into modern Greek, often for experimental productions. His most recent book was *Grandmother Athena*, a collection of essays and short stories about the Athens of times gone by.

Church news

The Dean of Ripon, the Very Rev Christopher Campbell, is to be Chairman of the Council for the Care of Churches, which advises the General Synod. He succeeds the Very Rev Eric Evans, who recently became Dean of St Paul's.

While stating that he is not an antiquarian, he says he believes "churches are not to be fooled about with lightly". Church buildings represented the hospitality of God to the world and their preservation had to have a pastoral and liturgical goal. He was "not interested" in preservation for its own sake.

Appointments
The Rev Richard J P Acworth, Lecturer at Bishop Lonsdale College, Oxford, to be Training Officer, diocese of Oxford.
The Rev Fred Belcher, permission to officiate, diocese of Salisbury, to be non-residential Minister, diocese of Salisbury.
Canon Carl Peterson, Vicar, diocese of Salisbury, to be also Rural Dean, diocese of Salisbury.
The Rev G D Sturt, Curate, diocese of Salisbury, to be also Rural Dean, diocese of Salisbury.
The Rev John E Durrant, Priest-in-charge, diocese of Salisbury, to be also Rural Dean, diocese of Salisbury.

and Training Officer for the Archdiocese of Canterbury, diocese of Canterbury, to be Training Officer, diocese of Canterbury.
The Rev Norman J C Greenfield, diocese of Salisbury, to be also Rural Dean, diocese of Salisbury.
The Rev David E Hargrave, Priest-in-charge, diocese of Salisbury, to be also Rural Dean, diocese of Salisbury.
The Rev John E Durrant, Priest-in-charge, diocese of Salisbury, to be also Rural Dean, diocese of Salisbury.

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Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. Barham and Miss M. Teasdale
The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Mr A.E. Barham, of London, and the late Mrs Barham, and Martha, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs W.B. Teasdale, of Paris.

Mr J.G. Brown and Miss C.M.A. Keef
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mrs D. Brown, and the late Dr J.S. Brown, of Wiltshire, Eastbourne, and Camilla, elder daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Oliver Keef, of Wiltshire, Eastbourne.

Mr N. Feston and Miss D. Smith
The engagement is announced between Nigel, only son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Feston, of Harrogate, North Yorkshire, and Deborah, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Smith, of Woodside Park, London.

Mr G.C. Langley and Miss A.C. Humphreys
The engagement is announced between Graham, son of Mr and Mrs R.E. Langley, of Wool, Dorset, and Amelia, daughter of Mr and Mrs R.G. Humphreys, of Rainow, Cheshire.

Mr A. Thomas and Miss A. Davies
The engagement is announced between Alec, youngest son of the late Mr G.E. Thomas and of Mrs Thomas, of Feltham, Middlesex, and Alison, youngest daughter of Mr W.A. Davies and of Mrs E.B. Davies, of Cheadam, Surrey.

Mr M.F. Neale and Miss X.W. Langhi
The marriage took place on Saturday, Queen's College Chapel, Oxford, of Mr Mark Neale, only son of Sir Alan and Lady Neale, of Highgate, London, to Miss Xanthe Langhi, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Hugh Langhi, of Fleet, Hampshire. The Rev P. Southwell officiated.

The bride was given in marriage by her father and Mr Charles Jennings was best man. A reception was held in Queen's College and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr J. Page and Miss K. Guth
The marriage took place on Saturday, August 27, in Geneva, Switzerland, of Mr Jamie Page to Miss Katharine Guth.



Miss Carolyn Clark, of Dover, shortly before she was forced to retire from the Loch Lomond marathon swim (Photograph: Tom Kidd).

Loch Lomond swimmers thwarted by rain and gales

By Kerry Gill

Gale force winds and driving rain battered an attempt at the weekend to swim Loch Lomond in celebration of the centenary of the Scottish Amateur Swimming Association.

Of the solo swimmers entered in the 23-mile non-stop bid, only London broadcaster Mr Kevin Murphy, completed the course, in a time of 13 hours, 57 minutes and 56 seconds.

Mr Murphy, who lives in Harrow, last swam Loch Lomond 21 years ago, and is a noted distance swimmer, having already swam Loch Ness and a crossing of the Irish Sea and the English Channel.

He completed his successful attempt on Loch Lomond - a dangerous stretch of water with notorious currents which claim an average of six drownings a year - after dark

on Saturday night having spent 15 hours in the water.

Scottish swimmer, Mr Kevin McIntosh, of Dundee, however, was forced to retire after 10 miles when gale force gusts drove his accompanying motor launch ashore and he was ordered from the water by safety officials.

A relay team of six under-16 swimmers was also forced to retire by the weather, although a senior relay team from Dundee's Old Amphibians Distance Swimming Club did manage to complete the course in 10 hours, 49 minutes and 42 seconds - the first time the Loch has been swum by a relay team.

Solo swimmer Miss Carolyn Clark, aged 23, a Customs and Excise official from Dover, was also forced out at the half way mark. She won last year's 10.5-mile Lake Windermere

event, Britain's premier distance swimming competition, and will contest it again next Saturday.

But after just six hours in the water she gave up. She said: "I am absolutely wiped out. Loch Lomond is over twice as long as Windermere and is a much tougher swim."

"It was very windy and the cold was getting to me. I was also swallowing a lot of water and had to pack it in, but I'll be back next year for another try."

Mr Andrew Taylor, a past-president of the association, added: "It was a pity Carolyn had to retire. She was swimming really well, but had some trouble with her shoulder and did not want to cause any trouble for next week's Windermere swim when she will defend her title there. We hope she comes back - I am sure she will make it if she tries again."

Electronic epistles of St Paul

Theological researchers, usually surrounded by dusty piles of lexicons, biblical translations and reference works, will soon be able to enter the age of the computer (Kerry Gill writes).

The Edinburgh software company, Office Workstations Ltd (OWL), is working on a contract to put different versions of the Bible, ancient and modern, on to compact disk.

Various translations and interpretations of the Old and New Testaments, lexicons, encyclopaedias and commentaries will soon be available to researchers on a single screen enabling them to leave their darkened libraries for the

world of the desktop computer.

OWL's work has been commissioned by the Dallas Theological Seminary under a contract expected to be worth \$500,000. Mr Jon Boring, project director for the seminary, said its goal was to build up a library on compact disk that would include a huge range of ecclesiastical works available at the touch of a button.

Mr Boring said present research entailed hours of work cross-checking reference books as well as the translation of the Bible from, say, Hebrew and Greek.

OWL's compact disk will allow theologians to compare

various translations and interpretations of both testaments on screen within seconds.

The system will be designed for ministers or Bible teachers and, initially, will contain up to 15 books. The first of the compact disks should cost about \$350 and will be available by the end of this year.

Mr Boring said the first disks would be ideal for scripture students and teachers, but the disks will become more and more sophisticated

The project will grow over the next five years and eventually there will be a disk containing no less than 300 books, including 10 to 20 different translations of the Bible.

Please help these children

1 in every 10 children suffers from

ASTHMA

Fighting for your next breath can be terrifying - please help these children. Asthma is the most common chronic disease among children.

While research has brought relief and new medications asthma is increasing. Over 2000 people die every year from asthma.

THE ARTS

David Sinclair meets Michelle Shocked, British-based American political singer

The ideal woman

The dramatic picture on the cover of Michelle Shocked's new album, *Short Sharp Shocked*, which shows the singer being half-strangled by a uniformed American policeman, is no fake. The photograph first appeared in the *San Francisco Examiner* of July 16, 1984, years before Shocked became a popular recording artist. It was taken at the scene of a demonstration, outside a company allegedly engaged in the production of the warfare chemical Agent Orange, and located in the vicinity of the San Francisco Democratic Party convention of that year.

It is an image of protest which says a lot about the girl who, at the age of 16, fled from the strict religious routine of life with her orthodox Mormon family in Gilmer, East Texas, and gravitated to what she calls the "generic underground resistance" movement of the American counter-culture.

"I've never known anyone as idealistic as me," she says; a skinny figure with a severe skateboard-punk haircut, sitting among piles of boxes in a grimy backroom at the offices of Cooking Vinyl, her independent record company.

Four years since that picture was taken, with another US Presidential election imminent, her latest assault on public consciousness is a record of supple and varied sophistication which deserves

to reap the benefits of the post-Tracy Chapman environment.

Of Chapman's phenomenal success, Shocked says: "I feel like I set it up for her. I don't feel threatened by her in the way that I felt threatened by comparisons to Suzanne Vega, which I resent. I'm more resentful that her [Chapman's] manager is Bob Dylan's old manager, because I don't like Bob Dylan."

"His music did not ever speak to me. He just does not have any relevance to life. But he was the only model that we were given to use; that is except for Patti Smith, perhaps."

In fact Michelle Shocked has tended to make up her own rules as she has gone along. Her first album, *The Texas Campfire Tapes*, was recorded by Pete Lawrence, now boss of Cooking Vinyl, on a portable cassette recorder sitting by a campfire at the Kerrville folk and country festival in Texas in June 1986.

It was a rare moment of magic, and the resulting album, which eventually sold 20,000 copies and went to the top of the UK independent chart, captured with almost eerie prescience the quality of her clear, resolute voice accompanied only by acoustic guitar, chirping crickets and the sounds of trucks passing in the night. "I had no idea he was going to make a record. I just thought it would be nice to leave one or two

tapes behind for when I'm gone."

Until then her itinerant lifestyle had taken her from the hardcore San Francisco punk scene to the bohemian cafe society of New York and the squats of Amsterdam, an update on the kind of rootless nomadic existence romanticized by the beat writers of the Fifties, but with a twist: "There's no place for a woman in a Jack Kerouac scenario. I was never prepared for this kind of life, but I now know what it's like to be assumed to be a prostitute because you're a woman and you're poor."

"I've lived in a squat with a violent, alcoholic marine from Dover... I've been raped in Italy. For Jack Kerouac to make it romantic to be out there hitchhiking, well, the story doesn't write itself the same way for a woman. But I consider travel to be the greatest freedom in the world, and I'll be damned if I'll let being a woman stop me from travelling."

She is still close to her father, who was divorced from her mother before the latter converted to the Mormon faith and married Michelle's step-father. But she has been completely cut off ("cast into the outer darkness") from the rest of her family.

She is the oldest of four sisters and seven brothers. Only one other brother backed the family faith, and he became "a glue-sniffing, acid-casualty drifter in

Florida somewhere, labouring for a minimum wage."

"It's terrifying. I'm strung out, but at least I got into politics. My fear is that he's going to show up backstage somewhere. I'm a bit of an acid casualty myself, I'll admit that. But I had to stop because I kept on being picked up on the streets and taken to mental institutions and given Thorazine."

Perhaps unsurprisingly, Michelle Shocked looks older than her 25 years, but her rather gaunt features do not eclipse the twinkle in her eyes nor the touch of open, nervous laughter in her voice.

She has settled, for the time being, in England where she finds the political culture allows her to express her radical instincts without feeling like a freak on the margins. She has bought a houseboat, just moved from moorings at Tottenham Hale to Thames Ditton.

"I still consider all this as a sort of food to make my life story interesting. 'Oh yes, I was a famous pop star for a few years'. But my real aim is to end up sitting on a boat somewhere having chow with an Indian, who for some reason or other speaks English, and to just be drifting and talking..."

Michelle Shocked's album, *Short Sharp Shocked*, is released on Cooking Vinyl tomorrow. Her tour of England starts at the Bitterley, Bristol on September 22.

PROMENADE CONCERTS

Distance and irony

Falstaff
Albert Hall

Year after year, Glyndebourne Festival Opera visit the Proms and lay themselves open to revealing to a capacity audience exactly the stuff of which one of their new productions is made. There are no pretty sets to help; there is no scented garden to soften the audience's senses, and considerably less champagne on hand. Musicianship and stagecraft are bare, clad only in the light costume of a semi-staged performance; yet time and again the Proms version is hailed with fewer reservations and more heartfelt applause than the great original.

This year was no exception. David Edwards, staging Verdi's *Falstaff* for the tiny, tilted stage of the Albert Hall, wrought considerable transformation on Sir Peter Hall's original conception, reviewed here by Paul Griffiths in June. Gone was Ford's neat garden, Herne's magical midnight oak. The cast dressed in near-mutil, with Falstaff (Claudio Desderi) in silk dressing gown, or a wailing in cerise silk scarf and cane; Pistol (Federico Davia) in leather jacket and jeans; Mistress Quickly (Felicity Palmer) quietly doing her knitting at the back, and sallying forth with a huge black handbag and plastic carrier.

Distance and irony were all. There were already seeds of it in Desderi's own portrayal of Falstaff: cynical, bitter, still stung, it seemed, by Hal's rejection. This performance, stripped of all period trimming, down to the essentials of human idiosyncrasy, encouraged him to go pretty nearly over the top: in his act two repartee with Quickly (her every subsequent "reverence" heavily cued in for laughs), and in his near send-up of his counting of the midnight clock.

But, by the time he was being taunted by a teeming stageful of bodies, as he crouched downstage as a tight black triangle under a vast black umbrella, little harm at all had been done to the music. As if to prove that Verdi's most consistently inventive stage-manager is his own score, Bernard Haitink drew a pageant of tumbling, volatile human emotion from its pages. Still more alert now to their humour and *jote de vivre* as well as to their mystery, the London Philharmonic prepared painstakingly and exuberantly for Verdi's great fugue of life. The audience responded, enthusiastically and second by second: what need of surtitles with musical language as accessible as this?

The cast, too, were in holiday mood, smoothly run in after their summer season, and free of its tensions. Eva Lind's Nannetta and Gianluca Sorrentino's Fenton, their intimacy cruelly exposed, did sound a little fatigued by it all. But Anne Howell's Meg was as spirited as ever, and with Nancy Gustafson (Glyndebourne's Katya this year) taking over the role of Alice, we were treated to a memorable performance of witty sense and golden-voiced sensibility.

Hilary Finch

BBC PO/Downes
Albert Hall

It has been suggested that Tippett's Piano Concerto is a fascinating failure. Despite moments of visionary beauty, there is a curious unfocused feeling about certain passages, not simply because of the near-unmanageable density of some of the textures.

A new kind of musical thinking, more elliptical and fragmented, is beginning to supplant the richly lyrical manner of *The Midsummer Marriage*, and the two styles rub shoulders uncomfortably. Certainly, it has rarely seemed to work in concert, but with David Wilde as soloist, and Edward Downes to draw out the leading voices in the orchestral writing, it fared remarkably well.

Wilde and Downes approach the work in a truly co-operative spirit: time after time the orchestral phrasing followed or echoed the piano faithfully and the balance of woodwind against intricate piano accompaniment in the slow movement was as fine as I have ever heard without the help of a microphone.

In the slow movement's closing strings-piano dialogue, the playing from both Wilde and orchestra was quite lovely; but, despite moments like this, the whole remained elusive.

Visions of impossible beauty clothed Mahler's Fourth Symphony; heaven viewed through the eyes of a child. But Mahler marks his soprano line "absolutely without parody", which certain singers would do well to remember. Felicity Lott did. She sang elegantly, sensitively, movingly, but quite without the arch quality that so frequently creeps into performance of this movement.

Once again, a splendid orchestra-soloist balance; indeed, throughout the symphony the players of the BBC Philharmonic were all attention, both to Downes and to each other; the result: a performance of chamber-music-like intimacy and inner rapport.

Stephen Johnson



Eyes still twinkling: Michelle Shocked has not been embittered by life

Don't eat it all

RADIO

There is a wry story about a colony of mites who took up residence in a cheese, where they multiplied and lived the life of Riley until one day, as a result of their depredations, the cheese collapsed in a heap of dust. The mites where deeply shocked, not to say outraged, and began to look for scapegoats. No doubt they found them to their satisfaction, although the story does not say.

It takes only a little imagination to substitute this planet for that cheese and every day you see things that make good the parallel (try a visit to a busy supermarket). This also makes you wonder if, among the colonists, there were at least some who tried to draw their fellows' attention to the consequences of their improvidence. Very probably there were.

In *Prophecy Returned* (Radio 4, Thursdays, repeating Saturdays; producer: Sheila Dillon) Derek Cooper has been talking to three colonists of earth, all of whom saw at the very beginning at the agro-chemical explosion what appeared to be the answer to dreams of plenty could blow up in our faces. Patience Gray, once editor of the "Observer's woman's page", realized that it is possible and nutritive to eat in a much less exploitative way than we do—possible at least if you live, as she does, in Apulia.

The American, Frances Moore Lappé, questioned the claims of agro-technology when others were vaulting them and has not had to eat her words. Lady Eve Balfour, splendidly patrician, refused the life expected of her as the daughter

of an earl, became a farmer and founded The Soil Association.

Does anybody listen to them? Oh yes, but what nobody could have foreseen is the present unholy alliance of supermarket and consumer. These two have persuaded each other that the only acceptable produce is of uniform size, perfect appearance and bears little trace of actually having been grown anywhere.

As the last edition of ITV's *Power In the Land* made all too clear, this works against all but the big and powerful farmers and helps to lock agro-business into the continuing massive use of pesticides and fertilizers. Where this may be taking us, we have a very good idea, but how to stop? Our cheese may yet crumble and collapse.

"Kicking the bucket, is one of those jolly phrases which sets death at a convenient distance, but I may use it less blithely after hearing *The Game* (Radio 4, Saturday; producer, Martin Kurzik). In this sobering little programme from BBC Wales, Leonard Wiesenki described how, in Buchenwald concentration camp, he was compelled to place a tight noose round the neck of a companion and then to kick away the upturned bucket on which he was standing.

This and other incidents described without emotion brought vividly to life the casual savagery of the SS and the Gestapo. But the main interest was in a sort of precursor of the Rubik Cube—the game of the title—which Wiesenki devised as a means of diverting his mind from what was going on around him and keeping him sane.

David Wade

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 30

GLOSSOLALIA

(b) The exhibitionist practice or faculty of speaking with tongues, also Anglicized to glossolalia, from the Greek *glossa* a tongue + *lalia* speaking; "In Corinth the terrible abuses of glossolalia had led to outbreaks which entirely ruined the order of worship."

THEROID

(a) Bestial wild savage; bestial or having the form of a brute; of bestial nature or character; from the Greek *theros* beast-like; "There is a class of idiots which may justly be designated theroid."

so like brutes are the members of it."

ROSMARINE

(c) The waltz, once thought by old wives of both sexes to climb rocks by its teeth to feed on dew, from the Italian and Spanish *romero*, perhaps influenced in its ending by *romariz*; *The Fairie Queen*: "The horrible Rosmarines, And greasy Rosmarines with visages deformed."

COMMISSURE

(a) A seam, interspace, or joint, from the Latin *commisura*, commissure to put together; "By day the shepherd would have raised his pipe in vain, towards the long clear-cut commissure of earth and sky."

Recast revised revivals are the first fruits of the English National Opera's new autumn season

Massive scale

OPERA

Tosca
Coliseum

Jonathan Miller's production of *Tosca*, translated to fascist Italy just as effectively as his now celebrated *Rigoletto* took on the mantle of prohibitionist America, returns to the English National Opera repertoire dusted down by Karen Stone, the producer responsible for its revival, and spruced up with a fine new cast. It is very welcome and very, very thrilling, the more so for the ardent—and accurate—orchestral playing under Paul Daniel.

The matter that will most bother potential audiences is whether Miller's allying of *Tosca* to Second World War rather than Napoleonic politics distorts the nature of the work. Since such things are all of a piece, the fact is that it does not.

Stefanos Lazaridis's sets, with their 1930s futurist-style skewed angles made all the more dramatic through sheer size and apparent weight, still make a pretty impressive impact. The giant wall of a renaissance church, seemingly joined to nothing and about to topple over, the oppressively angled platform (it must be difficult for the singers to remain upright), at once confusing our sense of the horizontal and suspending sanity, and the gloom of the background (Nick Chilton's lighting, revived by Paul Taylor, manages to be exemplary in both atmosphere

and clarity) combines to make this nightmare world reality.

Such *verismo* is emphasized by touches in the production like that when the firing squad, in aiming their weapons at Cavaradossi, also happen to point them directly at the audience. You can hardly be more involved in theatrical alchemy than that.

But, just as the physical scale of the production is massive, so too is the scale of much of the singing. To the title role for the first time in a fully professional context comes, magnificently, Janice Cairns, an accomplished actress, who clearly models her large voice on Callas's, and in so doing also reminds one of Barstow, though with more purity and power.

Her expressive range is immense, and she uses it here to give a portrayal of *Tosca* as victim, essentially a good woman despite her tendency towards jealousy and the instant, rather than the considered, solution. The intense beauty of her "Vissi d'arte" in Act Two was fully deserving of this Saturday night audience's applause, however disruptive.

She is supported well. Malcolm Donnelly, as Scarpia, suffers fractionally from some inaudible diction, but he is true enough to the spirit of the malicious power-monger of the character he sings. Edmund Barham's Cavaradossi is



Two victims: Janice Cairns (Tosca), Edmund Barham (Cavaradossi)

lary in the opera-comique version, where music often steals in delicately under dialogue — is debatable. One's misgivings were compounded here because the conductor Jaz Pascal Tortelier, making his ENO debut, took most of three acts to obtain the necessary bite and clarity of detail from the orchestra. Only in Act Four did something raw and urgent emerge from the pit.

Jean Rigby's Carmen still seems a little soft-centred, both in voice and personality, though there was a velvety allure in her habanera, and some stunning, confident low-register work near the death. As José, Jacques Trassler showed his potential after some nervous rushing early on: a powerful baritone-like approach, too

forceful in the Flower-Song, perhaps, but increasingly commanding in the exchanges leading (in this production) to the phallic thrust of the dagger.

Sergei Leiferkes's impressive Escamillo, though required to preen like the star of some after-shave commercial, sang with dark, tightly-focused authority, and executed wholesale massacre on Anthony Burgess's English translation with every new vowel: an admirable performance. More tenderness in the voice would enhance Susan Bullock's strongly sung Micaela; other promising newcomers included Eirian Davies and Valerie Reid, gamely tottering around on mega-stiletto heels as Frasquita and Mercedes.

Richard Morrison

Carmen
Coliseum

David Pountney's production of *Carmen* is back in ENO's repertoire, its psychedelic scrapyard of used cars and used women competing as gruesomely as ever in lurid tackiness. Its chief charm is to mock itself so outrageously that it preempts its critics.

As Paul Griffiths pointed out in 1986, the production aims unsanctionably at cheap, sexy thrills. Real erotic, masculine never comes in sight; in fact the staging virtually sidelines the Carmen-José relationship, neither motivating nor developing the fatal attraction. Thus Act Four's events make rather an unexpected end to a fun evening.

Moreover, much of the action verges on farce: Escamillo as matinee idol, flanked by prancing cheerleaders; deliberately awful bump-and-grind routines; the bizarre entry of a fat lady to pep up anything "slow" in Act Four; the smugglers as a comic turn; even a conga-chain. It does seem at times like a surreal mixture of a Jorge Luis Borges novel and a Club 18-30 holiday.

Whether this raunchy stage spectacle sits easily on Bizet's lyrical and subtle score — particu-

Neutral or amoral?

TELEVISION

A succession of clear-eyed, clean-cut and oddly cold-blooded men discussed the central moral dilemma of the Red Cross's work with political prisoners, in *Everyman* (BBC1, Sunday). For some there was no problem in reconciling their humanitarian work with the pledge of silence, which gave them access to prisons but obliged them to ignore any evidence of evil which they found there.

These logical and unemotional men obviously despised the few who disagreed with them. One worker returned from El Salvador full of outrage against the torture, murder and brutality which he had witnessed. He put his experiences in a novel and was prosecuted by the Red Cross, as an example to any other employee tempted to indulge his emotions in this way.

Unrepentant, he called the organization's stance "amoral", pointed to the darkest depths of the Swiss soul, and maintained that there could be no such thing as humanitarian neutrality.

The peg for this story was an investigation of the Red Cross's war record, in particular its silence about the atrocities of the Holocaust. This attempt to fathom the Swiss soul 45 years after the event had an unsatisfactory false tone; it suggested, with very little evi-

dence, the old story of diplomatic expediency, political *force majeure* and the failure of the imagination to register the scale of evil at work.

There was nothing unsatisfying about *Berliners* (BBC2, Saturday), a different exercise in war-time reminiscence, in which the actor Andrew Sachs returned to his childhood home. The half-Jewish Sachs family left Berlin in 1938. Andrew, who was then eight years old, thought that the Jews must be very special people, because they had yellow park benches reserved for their use. Although his best friends at school had been ordered not to talk to him, the full implications of Nazi anti-Semitism passed over his head.

He rediscovered his old home, playground, neighbours, relatives and friends and caught up with the past 50 years. There were family album photographs to illustrate the memories and meetings with new acquaintances, including an actor from East Berlin whose companies enjoyed life-long contracts. The programme was simple, unpretentious and delightful.

Celia Brayfield

Good-natured fun

THEATRE

Miseria e Nobilita
Royal Lyceum Theatre

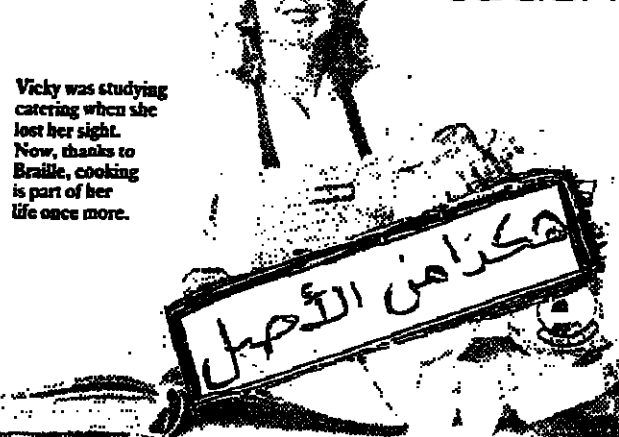
passing visits from the nobleman's real father.

What is attractive in these exchanges is their warm good nature. The play was written a century ago, yet the awe-struck ex-cook (Lello Scrao, sagging at the knees with excitement) is never mocked for hoping to clamber up the social scale. Characters get their fancy phrases all wrong (neat simultaneous translation) but again no embarrassment is attached in this production, by the author's great-grandson.

The comic partnership of Mario Scarpetta and Michelangelo Ragni is at its most inventive in the first act, when they are a pair of almost Beckett-like scarecrows. Several characters decline into lay figures after their moment of absurd glory, but this is as much in the style of the time as the kitchen pots and Greek statues painted on the backcloth.

Jeremy Kingston

cooking by touch



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BUSINESS AND FINANCE

هكذا من الأهل

STOCK MARKET

(Change on week)
FT 30 Share
1,425.4 (-59.1)
FT-SE 100
1,770.7 (-73.6)
USM (Datastream)
161.22 (-7.87)

THE POUND

(Change on week)
US dollar
1.6910 (-0.0110)
W.German mark
3.1419 (-0.0766)
Trade-weighted
75.6 (-1.1)Girobank
bidders
to be
shortlistedBy Our Banking
Correspondent

The second round in the bidding for Girobank, the banking arm of the Post Office, starts this week with the compilation of a shortlist of the most promising candidates.

Those institutions selected will be invited to put in serious offers for Girobank and detailed negotiations over the sale are likely to begin this month. The list is expected to comprise mostly British institutions.

So far, the TSB Group and Littlewoods, the retail chain, have expressed interest in Girobank, and may be shortlisted. The Royal Bank of Scotland and Bank of Scotland have also been considering bidding for the bank. The two Scottish banks, with relatively small branch networks, see Girobank as a way of expanding their influence all over Britain, particularly south of the border.

Standard Chartered had been tipped as a possible purchaser but is now thought to be too short of funds to afford the purchase. The big four English clearing banks have been virtually ruled out of the bidding by the Government on the grounds of limiting banking competition.

This month, the most serious candidates will be given more detailed information about Girobank and will then have to submit precise bids. The bank had been expected to fetch more than £150 million, but after news of a poor performance last year, when pre-tax profits rose only 1.7 per cent, estimates have dropped to below £140 million.

Rough ride
expected
for Jaguar

By Our City Staff

Jaguar shares, which fell on Friday after poor interim figures, are likely to stay in reverse when dealings resume tomorrow as the market absorbs a gloomy report released by Albert E Sharp, the broker.

The report will paint a bleak picture for the outlook at Jaguar and conclude that only the prospect of a takeover bid will keep the share price at its current level.

Sharp's report will predict that Jaguar will make no profits at all next year. It suggests that US sales, running at only three-quarters last year's levels, will fail to recover, and claims that margins are down by more than a third to below 10 per cent.

And it doubts that the lower American sales can be offset by increases in Europe and Japan. Sharp believes the share price would be less than half its current 252p level without takeover hopes.

Jaguar is "protected" from a foreign takeover until 1990 by the golden share held by the Government since the group's privatization, but many believe that it would make an attractive target for Chrysler.

THE TIMES
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● Details, page 18

'Two million
more jobs by
mid-1990s'Growth in productivity
forecast to continue

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Nearly 2 million jobs will be created in Britain by the mid-1990s and strong growth in productivity will continue, according to the latest long-term projections released today by the Institute for Employment Research.

The institute, based at Warwick University, sees a further shift in employment towards service industries, and away from primary industries and manufacturing, within an overall strong picture for employment growth.

The projections, detailed in the institute's annual *Review of the Economy and Employment*, are more optimistic than those presented a year ago.

Professor Robert Lindley, the institute's director, said the economy had performed better than was expected a year ago. In particular, the sharp improvement in the Government's fiscal position had given the Chancellor substantial additional room for manoeuvre.

Overall, the forecast sees the number of jobs in the econ-

omy rising from the present 25.2 million to 26.9 million by 1995. Adjusted for the number of people holding more than one job, the number of employed persons will increase from a present 24.9 million to 26.6 million by 1995. Average growth in the economy over the period is forecast to be just below 2.5 per cent a year.

Self-employment, it is predicted, will continue to expand, rising by 500,000 to 3.4 million over the period. But continued growth in the number of people making themselves available for work is expected to keep the unemployment total at more than 2 million.

The institute forecasts that the sharpest growth in employment in the 1987-95 period, 1.22 million, will be in business and other miscellaneous services, followed by distribution and transport — up by 433,000 — and construction, up by 201,000.

Manufacturing employment is forecast to decline by 230,000, while employment in mining and utilities will drop by 97,000. As a result the share of manufacturing in total em-

ployment — 35 per cent in the mid-1970s — will fall to just 19.6 per cent by 1995. The share of business and miscellaneous services increases from a present 20.2 per cent to 23.5 per cent, distribution and transport is steady at about 27 per cent and construction is also stable at about 6.5 per cent.

The Review emphasizes that the fall in manufacturing employment is within a picture of continued growth in manufacturing output, suggesting strong growth in productivity for some time.

For the period 1987-95 as a whole, the growth in manufacturing productivity is forecast to average 4 per cent a year, well above its long-term trend growth rate of about 2.5 per cent a year.

Within the overall growth in the number of jobs, part-time work is predicted to continue to play a central role. About 1.2 million of the 1.7 million jobs created by the mid-1990s are forecast to be part-time, while growth in women's employment is forecast to outstrip the growth in jobs for men.

GrandMet 'seeking US buy
with Inter-Continental cash'

By Michael Tate, Deputy City Editor

Grand Metropolitan is thought to be lining up a leading player in the American food and drink industry as its next acquisition — the move may come before the end of the year, as soon as the Inter-Continental hotel chain is sold and the battle for control of Irish Distillers resolved.

Since the group opened its secret Inter-Continental "data rooms" in New York and Hong Kong at the beginning of last week, it is understood to have had visits from between 10 and 20 serious buyers, including big US hotel chains and Far Eastern groups.

Grand Met expects to have £1.5 billion of Inter-Continental cash in its hands before the year-end to add to the £400 million it collected for its Pepsi-Cola bottling plants, sold last June. Even after

clearing up its balance sheet debt, it will have well over £1 billion to spend.

Failing any acquisitions, Mr Ian Martin, Scots-born head of Grand Met's US operations, who was pulled across from the brewing business in 1985, will be left with only the Alpo dog food and Pearle eye-care chain to run. But Mr Martin is in no mood to just liquidate businesses. He says the disposals amount to a clearing of the decks rather than a clearing out, and has sought acquisition targets in the US food, drinks and retailing industries. He aims to pick off a market leader.

A large US deal would not rule out a UK acquisition but it may delay one. Grand Met is unlikely to want to undertake two important acquisitions at the same time.

However, it is understood to

have been interested in Rowntree Mackintosh before the Swiss Nestlé and Suchard groups swept the price away, and is thought to be looking closely at Cadbury Schweppes. A UK drinks acquisition would almost certainly be ruled out by the Monopolies Commission, but there are few grounds for objection to the purchase of Schweppes soft drinks operations. Hershey would also be a potential buyer of the Cadbury business.

But Grand Met's next move here could be in the food business which includes key companies such as Unigate, United Biscuits and Northern Foods. Meanwhile it awaits news on whether the French Pernod Ricard group is preparing to do the white knight armour in opposition to its contested £213 million bid for Irish Distillers.

Peter Clowes: from hardware to headlines



Reflecting on life: Peter Clowes at his home in Prestbury, Cheshire, yesterday

An upwardly-mobile lifestyle

By Lawrence Lever

The story of Mr Peter Clowes is not exactly one of rags to riches, but until the crash of the Barlow Clowes investment group he could certainly be described as upwardly mobile.

A working class boy, he left school at 16 to work in his parents' hardware shop in Manchester. He had a handful of "O"-levels and mathematics was his best subject. He considered higher education but thought it would not guarantee him a job.

So instead he spent the next 10 years working in the family's hardware business, selling pots and pans over the counter.

At 26, when his parents wanted to retire, he decided against taking over the business. He joined International Life, a British company linked to the notorious Investors Overseas Services run by Bernie Cornfield.

It was hardly a dramatic start. And yet the collapse of Barlow Clowes has put the life savings of thousands of people in jeopardy and triggered a political outcry against the Department of Trade and

Industry which licensed Barlow Clowes to deal with the public in 1985.

Mr Clowes claims "enemies in the City" have conspired to bring down his business and are therefore responsible for the anguish of the Barlow Clowes investors. He says: "My methods might have been unconventional but I have not done anything wrong and I have not stolen any money from anybody, or misused client's money."

And he has an answer for everything — or almost everything.

Investors with Barlow Clowes were told their money would be invested entirely in gilts. Their professional intermediaries told them what was in Barlow Clowes's promotional literature. Indeed, the company called itself a gilts specialist.

However, when Barlow Clowes International, the offshore division, was closed down, very little was found to be in gilts. Much of the £138 million has been put into private and public companies connected with Mr Clowes or

his associates. Some of these are obscure offshore companies registered in Liechtenstein or the British Virgin Islands, for instance.

Investors in BCI are owed £138 million. There is no chance of all their money being returned. Mr Clowes thinks at least £75 million is recoverable. The liquidators, who are in a more objective position, consider this to be optimistic. There is undoubtedly going to be a huge shortfall. How did it happen?

Mr Clowes spent six years at International Life. He met Cornfield only once, he says, at a seminar in London. "I was not particularly inspired," he says.

At International Life he was an inspector. "Initially I sold some of their products. I had the responsibility of setting up a broker network for them of intermediaries in the North-west."

This task brought him into contact with some of the financial intermediaries, such as Mr Dennis Wilson of DC Wilson, who was to recommend Barlow Clowes products

so religiously to its clients. DC Wilson was among the biggest producers for Barlow Clowes and was suspended by the authorities.

It was at International Life that Peter Clowes came across Mrs Elizabeth Barlow, who was selling their products as well. At the time she left she was a branch manager. The two left in 1973 to set up Barlow Clowes, the joint name which would make so many headlines.

Mr Clowes, relaxing in his £350,000 house at Paddock Brow, Prestbury, Cheshire, where he lives with his wife Pamela and two of his six children, denies he led a jet-set lifestyle. His sole indulgence, he said, was the Boukephalos, the private yacht now in the hands of liquidators.

There has been much criticism, particularly from Barlow Clowes investors, of the £1,000 a week expenses which have been allowed by the liquidators. He says he might have received more if it had gone to court for a ruling. In any event, he has come a long way from the hardware shop.

Mountleigh cheered
by Clegg's recovery

By Our City Staff

News that Mr Tony Clegg, the chairman of Mountleigh, is recovering at his home in the south of France after a serious operation should help stabilize the property group's share price when the stock market re-opens tomorrow.

Under Mr Clegg, a Yorkshireman aged 51, Mountleigh has mushroomed in value from £2 million just five years ago to £300 million today.

However its share price has slumped recently from a 180p 1988 peak to 132p amid concern about Mr Clegg's health and worries about the acquisition of Galleries Preciados, a Spanish store chain. The share price is now 40 per cent below the estimated 215p net asset value.

It emerged at the weekend that Mr Clegg had undergone surgery on a brain tumour which had turned out to be benign.

Though he will spend the



Tony Clegg: convalescence next few weeks. Mountleigh, he clearly hopes to be well enough to attend Mountleigh's annual meeting which is due to take place on September 22.

The Mountleigh annual report will be published tomorrow and may include details of a restructuring of Galleries Preciados.

Young to seek easing of bid
rules on Australian tour

By Colin Narbrough

Lord Young of Graffham, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, begins a week's official visit to Australia today to strengthen what Britain regards as neglected trade ties between the two Commonwealth economies.

He also hopes to persuade Canberra to open the way for more British takeovers of Australian companies by easing restrictive laws.

Australian entrepreneurs, free to enter the open British market, have been aggressively acquiring UK firms over the past few years, protected against predators at home by restrictions on takeovers by foreigners.

Talks with Australian ministers are expected to cover a range of international trade issues, focusing on efforts to establish freer world trade under the General Agreement

on Tariffs and Trade. The two countries have increasingly found common ground in this area, and Lord Young has earlier suggested that the two work together in pursuit of more open markets worldwide.

His trip, which follows Mrs Thatcher's visit to Australia earlier this month, is primarily aimed at revitalizing Britain's trade with its traditional partners in the Antipodes, an objective he outlined before the Australian-British Chamber of Commerce in London last month.

Britain, despite its problems with its trade deficit, wants to make clear that it is a "sound" trading partner, anxious to do business and further develop trade relations, building on long-standing ties.

While Canberra is still confident about the strength of

the Australian economy, its latest trade statistics, like Britain's, showed an alarming deficit, which sent the dollar lower.

Some improvement in bilateral trade was seen in the first half of this year, when British exports to Australia increased more than 13 per cent and imports from Australia were 12 per cent higher. British exports to Australia had a total value of £1.2 billion last year, almost twice the level of imports.

Before leaving for Australia, Lord Young noted that, after substantial Australian investment in Britain recently, there was "more room for investment in both directions."

Lord Young starts his visit in Perth, continuing to Sydney, Canberra and Brisbane, before flying on to New Zealand on September 5.

Parkdale subsidiary
wins £25m contracts

By Our City Staff

Parkdale Holdings, the property group which is based in Leeds, West Yorkshire, and is now headed by Sir Peter Parker, has won another £25 million of leisure development contracts through its Clifford Barnett subsidiary, including the £10 million Olympic standard water polo and volleyball centre for the 1991 World Student Games.

Other projects include a £6.25 million leisure develop-

ment at Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, and water-based leisure facilities at Bude, Cornwall, and at Prudhoe, Northumberland. Parkdale, whose £9 million "Pyramids" banqueting and leisure centre at Portsmouth, Hampshire, was opened by the Princess Royal in May, will complete work on the £7 million Sovereign leisure centre and luxury apartments at Eastbourne, East Sussex, in October.

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DYING FROM
MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE

With the disease that's killing me, you never know what the next day will bring.
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Battle between market-makers puts pressure on profits

City prepares for new wave of job losses

By Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent

The shadow of redundancies has fallen over the stock market again. City brokers fear another wave of job losses could be on the way if last week's move to cut dealing spreads by many leading market-makers is not reversed. Several City firms have already called board meetings this week to discuss the problem.

More than 5,000 jobs have been lost in the securities industry since the October crash and the subsequent fall in stock market trading volumes. The cut of up to 40 per cent in dealing spreads — the difference between buying and selling prices on a share — now means that some firms can

hardly cover their overheads, let alone make a profit. It is on the spread that profits are made — the smaller the spread, the smaller the profit.

There is also no indication that stock market turnover will increase, although part of the reason for the lower dealing spreads was to tempt customers to deal more often. Last week saw one of the lowest turnovers in equities since Big Bang.

The biggest casualties this time could be the smaller brokers, unlike the crisis which followed the October crash when the larger market-makers with high overheads were most active in laying off expensive staff.

Having cut down on excess staff, the bigger stockbrokers now appear

ready for a war of attrition. Mr John Hewitt, managing director of Citicorp Scrimegour Vickers, said last week that Citicorp was prepared to put up with losses from its broking subsidiary if the pay-off was an increase in market share.

Mr Bob Wade, joint head of market making at CSV, said: "The cut in dealing spreads is here to stay. It will sort out which houses have a real commitment to market-making. Let's see who wants to play."

Companies with strong financial resources — particularly those backed by large international banks — can afford to fund their poor revenue flow from capital.

But smaller brokers do not have

this choice and will have to take radical action to stay in business. This may mean withdrawing from some sectors of the market, dismissing staff or linking up with other market-makers. Even some of the larger firms may decide to close operations in selected areas of market-making.

If spreads remain low, a drop in brokers' salaries is almost certain, with the blow likely to come initially on this year's bonus payments. The guaranteed bonuses offered by many firms after Big Bang have mostly come to an end. Many companies scaled back last year's bonus after the crash, and further cuts could be necessary this year to take into account the drop in dealing spreads.

Stephen John

Fortune magazine points to trend away from inherited assets in list of the wildly wealthy

Rise of the self-made billionaire

From Charles Bremner, New York

The Queen remains the world's richest woman and top of the list of 12 British dollar billionaire families, according to *Fortune* magazine. With big property assets, racehorses, jewellery, art and stamp collections and "vast shareholdings," she is worth \$8.7 billion (£5.1 billion) according to *Fortune*, one of several US magazines which every year tries to rank the world's richest.

She also earns \$30 million a year, free of tax, from overseas investments, it said.

The richest man in the world remains the Sultan of Brunei, with \$25 billion in assets, followed by the Saudi royal family with \$18 billion.

The American Mars sweets-making family comes third, with \$12.5 billion, according

to *Fortune's* calculation. The science of ranking the rich has some distance to go, however. *Fortune's* list differs markedly from the annual table issued by *Forbes* magazine last month. The Mars family, according to *Forbes*, is worth a paltry \$1.15 billion. That magazine calculated that there are 192 billionaire families in the world, not including the inherited wealth of royalty.

Fortune, on the other hand, decrees that there are 129, but does not include the three Colombian cocaine families which *Forbes* entered high in its league table.

Both magazines agreed that Britain's second-richest family was that of the Duke of Westminster, but number three, according to *Fortune*, is the Rausing family of London

and Sussex, owners of the Tetra-Pak food packaging company. They were said to have \$3.3 billion of assets, but failed to make the *Forbes* list.

The next Britons, according to *Fortune*, are the Sainsburys, with \$3 billion, the Anglo-Canadian Weston family with a \$3 billion supermarkets fortune, Sir John Moores of Littlewoods with \$2.8 billion, the Vestey family with \$2.8 billion, Mr Robert Maxwell with \$1.4 billion and Sir James Goldsmith with \$1.2 billion.

A newcomer to the US *Fortune* list is Mr Donald Trump, the New York developer, who is reported to be worth \$1.3 billion. *Forbes* dubbed him the most acquisitive on its list. The most unpretentious is Mr Sam Walton, the \$7.4 billion owner of

Wal-Mart Stores. He drives a Ford pick-up and spends \$6 on haircuts.

Most frugal of the super-rich is said to be Mr Li Ka-shing, the Hong Kong businessman. Despite being worth some \$2.5 billion, he lives in the same modest house that he bought 20 years ago.

While most on the billionaire league like to play down their net worth or even keep it secret, as in the case of the Mars family, not all exhibit such modesty. Mr Trump, who this year bought the Plaza Hotel in New York, has been telling people that he is worth more than \$3 billion. *Fortune* awarded the title of most flamboyant consort to Mrs Leona Helmsley, the wife of another New York developer.

The self-styled Queen of the Helmsley Palace hotel, Mrs Helmsley, aged 68, and her elderly husband, Harry, are awaiting trial on charges of tax fraud.

Fortune had some encouragement for those who have yet to make their first million. "The lesson to be drawn is that the kid next door can still grow up to be the billionaire on the block."

Among the 129 on the list, self-made men and women rival the heirs to family fortunes, it said.

The youngest of the nouveau crowd is the \$1.4 billion Mr William Gates, the 32-year-old co-founder of Microsoft, the computer software firm. Black Monday and the stock market slump last October knocked only 10 fam-

ilies off the *Fortune* list, among them Mr Don Fisher, the founder of the Gap clothes chain.

But even Arabs lamented the market slump. "The ruling al-Sababs of Kuwait are about \$1 billion poorer this year because of their foreign investments. But they still have \$4 billion," *Fortune* says.

Fortune also took the trouble to dispel a widespread delusion - that riches bring unhappiness. It consulted Mr Robin Leach, the British host of a popular television show, *Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous*. "We yearn to hear that they are miserable because they've got it and we don't," Mr Leach said. "But most of the billionaires I've met are having a grand old time."

RANKING THE RICHEST

Rank	Name	Net Worth (\$ billions)
1	Sultan Hassan bin Bolkiah	42
2	King Fahd bin Abdul Aziz al-Saud	38
3	Forrest E Mars	24
4	Queen Elizabeth II	22
5	Mitzi Newhouse	18
6	Sam Moore Walton	17
7	Albert Reichenow	15
8	Kenneth Colin Irving	14
9	Kenneth H Thomson	13
10	Garold Groves	12
11	YC Wang	11
12	Queen Beatrix	10
13	Sir Richardson Bass	9
14	Sheikh Jaber Ahmed al-Sabah	8
15	Jay Arthur Pritzker	7
16	Johanna Quandt	6
17	Godfried Breuninger	5
18	Gad Rausing	4
19	John Warner Kluge	3
20	Walter H Annenberg	2
21	Edgar M Bronfman Sr	1
22	Henry Lee Hillman	1
23	Charles Koch	1
24	Alan Lande	1
25	Alfred Taubman	1
26	Garfield Weston	1
27	Konrad Henkel	1
28	Cargill Macmillan Jr	1
29	Konaka Masatsugu	1
30	Sir John Moores	1
31	Yoshiaki Tsutsumi	1
32	Friedrich Karl Fildt	1
33	Prince Johannes Thurn und Taxis	1
34	Erwin Karl Heuts	1
35	H Rose Perot	1
36	Salvio Berlusconi	1
37	Anne Cox Chambers	1
38	Li Ka-shing	1
39	Frederik H Fonteyne	1
40	Anton Casper Rudolph Dreier	1
41	Thomas Schmidheiny	1
42	Warren Edward Buffett	1
43	August von Fink	1
44	David Packard	1
45	Grete Schickel	1
46	Rinj Shino	1
47	Josephine Ford	1
48	Liam Sio Liong	1
49	Sheikh Rashid bin Said al-Maktoum	1
50	Sulman Abdul-Aziz al-Rajhi	1
51	Edmund Vestey	1
52	Liane Bettencourt	1
53	Estée Lauder	1
54	Sumner Redstone	1
55	Edward Bromberg	1
56	Ingvar Kamprad	1
57	Reinhard Michs	1
58	Sulman Saleh Olayan	1
59	Marvin Davis	1
60	William H Hewlett	1
61	William H Heston Jr	1
62	Margaret Hunt Hill	1
63	Masatoshi Ito	1
64	Charles A Sammons	1
65	Giovanni Agnelli	1
66	YF Chang	1
67	Jack Kent Cooke	1
68	Tamesaburo Furukawa	1
69	Edward Gaylord	1
70	Lawrence	1
71	José Emílio de Moraes	1
72	Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al-Nahayen	1
73	Isao Nakaguchi	1
74	Samir Ahmed Odeh	1
75	Laurence S Rockefeller	1
76	Laurence Alan Tisch	1
77	Ted Arison	1
78	Donald Bren	1
79	William Gates III	1
80	Harry B Helmsley	1
81	Robert Maxwell	1
82	Roger Milliken	1
83	Keith Rupert Murdoch	1
84	Sir YK Pao	1
85	Leonard Norman Stern	1
86	Shoji Uehara	1
87	King Hassan II	1
88	Alfred Henry Heineken	1
89	David H Murdoch	1
90	Donald W Reynolds	1
91	Donald J Trump	1
92	Leslie Wexner	1
93	Madeline Dessaut	1
94	John T Dorrance Jr	1
95	Paul Gerdink	1
96	Gordon Foster	1
97	Sir James Goldsmith	1
98	Martin Hill	1
99	Samuel Jayson Lefrak	1
100	Bruce H McCaw	1
101	Meja Schacher Shalim	1
102	Prince Sultan bin Abdul-Aziz al-Saud	1
103	Harold C Simmons	1
104	Baron Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisze	1
105	August Busch Jr	1
106	Ray Hunt	1
107	Alice Sheets Marriott	1
108	Kerry Packard	1
109	Kichinsuke Sasaki	1
110	Genevieve Seydoux	1
111	Karl Albrecht	1
112	Philip Frederick Anschutz	1
113	Luciano Benetton	1
114	Sebastião Furtado de Castro	1
115	Ernest Gallo	1
116	Khaled bin Ibrahim	1
117	Taro Ikeda	1
118	Karichiro Ishizashi	1
119	Prince Franz Joseph	1
120	Ahmed Juffali	1
121	Genshiro Kawamura	1
122	Veit Koo	1
123	Lee Sang Wee	1
124	Salem Ahmed bin Hafiz	1
125	Rudolf August Oetker	1
126	Selap Saranci	1
127	John Richard Sampson	1
128	Abdul-Aziz al-Sulaiman	1
129	Kitaro Watanabe	1



Donald Trump



Sir James Goldsmith



Estée Lauder



Alfred Taubman



Queen Beatrix



Sir John Moores

US house market 'set for slump'

New York (Reuters) - A New York investment firm is predicting a steep fall in the American housing market as a heavy debt burden on consumers brings the price-rise bandwagon of recent years to a sudden halt.

Comstock Partners, a New York investment strategy group, says housing prices are too high to be sustained by consumers, and this will eventually force substantial price-cutting.

Mr Michael Aronstein, one of the three partners in the firm, says that prices in some regions could fall 50 per cent over the next 10 years. He points to the Texas experience as an example - in Houston, a decline in the oil industry has sent prices down an estimated 25 per cent from their peak in the middle of 1983. One of the

main problems in the market, he said, is that house buyers, and the banks that lend money to them, have dangerously assumed that prices would rise forever.

Individuals have been willing to take on a huge debt to own houses because they see them as investments rather than just places to live.

However, he adds, once the perception that buyers will reap large rewards when they come to sell changes there will be a rush of selling that will send the market plunging.

Mr Aronstein predicted that the North-east, a recent boom area, will be hardest hit. However, Mr John Tuccillo, chief economist at the National Association of Realtors, said house prices would increase slowly and were resilient to inflation.

Japan and America in trade talks

Tokyo (Reuters) - The US and Japan have begun to explore a free trade pact that would guide their economic relations into the next century. While an agreement, if any, is still years away, both sides say the effort to map out the future could help avoid past pitfalls.

Mr Mike Mansfield, US ambassador to Japan, said: "We ought to... get away from this nickel and diming way of conducting trade negotiations on one issue or a group of issues." This, analysts say, has spawned resentment on both sides and has done little to reduce the yawning trade gap in Japan's favour between the countries.

The US International Trade Commission, acting at the behest of the Senate Finance Committee, recently launched a formal investigation into the issue. In Japan, at least four government ministries have begun to look into the question of a free trade pact.

The Japanese Foreign Ministry launched its own investigation after the US Senate Majority leader Mr Robert Byrd raised the issue with Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita in January. An interim report this summer was positive about the idea of a freetrade pact, officials said.

Fear of lower standards as aircraft backlog rises

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

A big increase in aircraft sales has led to a four-year backlog of orders and fears that quality control standards could fall in the race to keep pace with demand.

Boeing, the American manufacturer, has received orders for a record 466 aircraft so far this year leading to predictions that it will top the 500 level by the year-end.

The huge rush to buy new aircraft - illustrated by deals like the recent order for 123 Boeing and Airbus from International Lease Finance Corporation - has been fuelled by a general improvement in the world economy, an enormous increase in demand for air travel and the need to replace older, noisier jets with quieter aircraft. The demand has led to a backlog of 1,036 orders at Boeing's Seattle, Washington, plants.

This is the highest ever recorded by the company and guarantees it work for at least four years.

In order to meet the demand Boeing is increasing the production rate of all its jets and expects to produce one new aircraft every working day within the next three months.

But Mr Frank Shrontz, the president of Boeing, is concerned that the rush to fulfil the orders and the pressures from airlines for delivery, could put renewed pressure on

quality controllers who have already come under attack for allowing standards to slip and who have been ordered to tighten up.

"We are gaining on the problem, but I am still not satisfied due to the magnitude of the work we have in hand. Our quality control is better than it was a few months ago but we still have a long way to go," Mr Shrontz said.

In Europe, McDonnell Douglas also claims to be "sold out" of its popular MD80 range of twin jets until 1992 and even the MD11, which is desperately in need of a leading US airline as a customer, has a committed production line until 1991.

In Europe Airbus has taken orders for 136 aircraft this year worth \$5,628 billion (£3.31 billion) with a further 67 options outstanding and a backlog of 540 orders.

Manufacturers predict that they will sell more than \$400 billion worth of aircraft between now and 2005 to meet an expected doubling in the number of people wanting to fly.

Permanent teams of engineers from airlines have moved into the plants producing their aircraft and are trying to keep a constant watch on quality.

The manufacturers themselves are trying meanwhile to ease the problems by limiting the number of aircraft sold to the burgeoning leasing companies who have now about 25 per cent of the aircraft on order. They are trying to cut down on modifications produced individually for airlines by offering a range of options designed to fit the needs of their biggest customers.

In the meantime, however, any small airline or those ordering only a handful of aircraft are being told that they must wait until the middle of the next decade while the current backlog is cleared.

Britannia Boeing: charters have made aircraft demand soar

Distribution holds the key to 1992 cost savings

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Restructuring distribution networks, together with streamlining of administration, will provide an opportunity to make significant cost savings when the single European market is established in 1992.

This is the conclusion reached by P-E Inbucon, one of Britain's top three management consultants, after working with several large companies on projects aimed at realising strategies to take best advantage of 1992.

Freer trade within Europe should prove a great opportunity, according to P-E Inbucon. Cost savings should come

from economies of scale, standardised production, reduced stocks, cross-border deliveries and rationalization of distribution centres.

European Economic Community studies have shown that companies expect the breaking down of trade barriers to bring a 5 per cent increase in sales volume and a 2 per cent cut in unit costs.

Savings are expected to flow from lower distribution costs although not on the scale seen in America, where, after deregulation in 1980, interstate road transport costs fell 10 per cent.

The EEC estimate is for a reduction of about 5 per cent in road transport costs.

Industry managers in Britain are having to look seriously at the location of their factories and distribution centres within the EEC as well as goods transportation generally, says P-E Inbucon.

One of Britain's biggest paint companies found its distribution system was not capable of coping with projected demand even within Britain. It has now hastened a study of European implications.

A multinational company which had just completed an important review of its American operations estimated that

the new European market for its goods was roughly the same as in the US. But the study showed the operation in Europe was going to be much more complex.

It had subsidiaries in six countries in northern Europe. P-E Inbucon considered 36 possible scenarios to deal with the problems. In the end, activities were rationalized, with the main improvement coming from a change in the product range manufactured at each plant, thus reducing production costs. In addition, there was increased transport frequency carrying larger loads of fewer products and

reduced national and international warehousing with squeezed inventories.

P-E Inbucon claims it left the company better equipped for a barrier-free Europe while targeted savings of \$20 million (£11.7 million) were expected to be achieved without the need for plant closures.

Another multinational has decided to reduce its stocks in Europe by making greater use of a central distribution system from the employment of more rapid stock replenishment and boosted cross-border deliveries. Now it is considering dropping nationally-based warehousing.

Whatever the outcome of the MMC inquiry, it may be time to abandon the anti-Kuwait campaign before it backfires to reconsider what is in Britain's best interests. After all, the prospect of a Gulf ceasefire has transformed Kuwait into probably the most influential power in the Middle East.

Humphrey Harrison, Director, Energy Research, Kuwait, said:

Kuwaiti undertakings should calm fears over its stake in BP

Why the anti-KIO campaign must end

For years the Government has insisted that the British oil industry is of little strategic significance and that its health and prosperity is best ensured by exposing it to the discipline of a free market. But this year it abandoned this policy and decided a large holding in a single oil company could be contrary to the public interest. The matter was referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

The company was, of course, BP. But perhaps because the large shareholder was Kuwait, a member of Opec, subsequent public comment has largely focused on insinuations about the Kuwaitis.

It is worth considering how important BP is to Britain. It undoubtedly plays a key role in the energy sector but, in the economy as a whole, its position is modest - both because the greater part of its operations (85 per cent of capital employed) is outside Britain and because the energy sector is a small part of the total economy.

According to the Department of

Energy, 23 per cent of total British oil production and 30 per cent of proven oil reserves are attributable to BP (including Britoil). Of course, in the event of another oil crisis, it is important that so substantial a part of Britain's North Sea assets should be controlled by a British company - but is it? First, two thirds of BP's oil is produced outside Britain and, in a time of crisis, governments where that production is located would certainly divert it for their own needs. Secondly, under the Energy Act 1976, the Government has sweeping powers to do just this, regardless of the nationality of the company concerned.

Thirdly, the Act was passed in response to the singular failure during the 1974 oil price crisis of the big oil companies to put the national interest above other considerations. Multinational companies would be failing shareholders were they to sacrifice profits for any one country's national well-being.

The point was clearly not lost on the Government when it offered for sale

its outstanding 32 per cent holding in BP last October. When the "biggest ever" share issue was heading for disaster and the KIO saved the day by absorbing as many shares as panicked investors sought to unload, it also restored investor confidence. And there-in lies the nub of the issue.

The KIO has been portrayed as an ultra-secretive organization with a tendency to disregard the rules of the game. It is true that the KIO shuns publicity, but the rest is incorrect.

The KIO takes a long-term view of investments and does not interfere with management. Companies in which it has substantial stakes (for example, the Royal Bank of Scotland - 14.9 per cent) have publicly confirmed this and regard the KIO as a welcome shareholder.

Far from marking a U-turn in Kuwaiti policy or constituting an attempt to wrong-foot the British, the Kuwaitis' Deed of Covenant on BP makes legally enforceable in British courts the various assurances given to the Government and thus paid to

any lingering doubts or fears over its true intentions. The Deed is binding in perpetuity, irrespective of the outcome of the MMC inquiry, and regardless of any change of government in Kuwait.

Kuwait has undertaken not to increase its BP holding beyond its 21.68 per cent, not to exercise voting rights in relation to more than 14.9 per cent of BP's share capital, not to seek representation on the BP board or even to oppose any candidate proposed by the existing directors and, most significantly, not to use its holding in BP to further any commercial or political interest in Kuwait.

Whatever the outcome of the MMC inquiry, it may be time to abandon the anti-Kuwait campaign before it backfires to reconsider what is in Britain's best interests. After all, the prospect of a Gulf ceasefire has transformed Kuwait into probably the most influential power in the Middle East.

Humphrey Harrison, Director, Energy Research, Kuwait, said:

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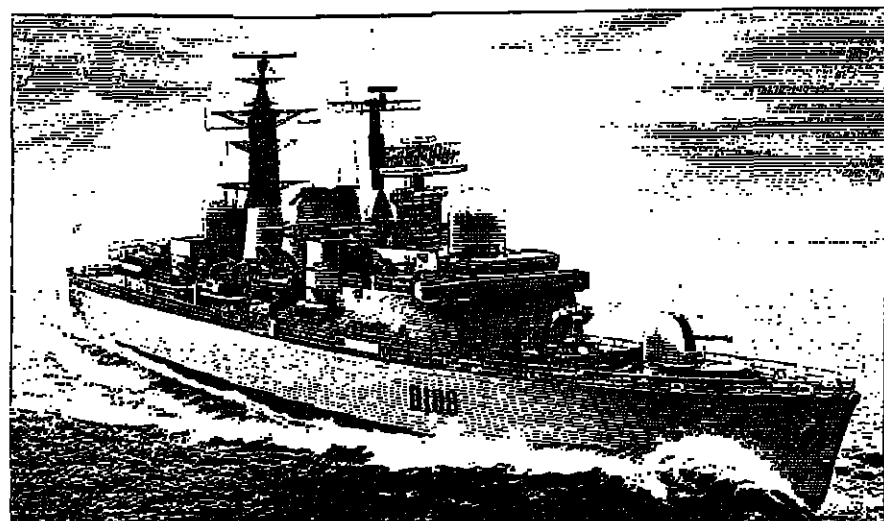
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RACING: BRUISED HEEL FORCES HERN COLT TO MISS DONCASTER

Unfuwain out of St Leger

By Michael Seely, Racing Correspondent

Unfuwain, a gallant second to Mito in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at Ascot in July, has been suffering from a bruised heel and will not now attempt to give Dick Hern a sixth victory in the St Leger on Saturday week.

"Unfuwain has low heels and they bruise easily," said Angus Gold, Sheikh Hamdan Al-Maktoum's racing manager. "It's nothing serious and he's 95 per cent all right. Hopefully, he'll now be able to run in the Arc."

Minster Son is now West Isley's only possible representative in the classic. But Lady Beaverbrook's Gordon Stakes winner would miss the line-up if the ground were to be soft.

Diminuendo remains a firm favourite to give Henry Cecil his fourth win in the St Leger, but the seven times champion trainer now faces the problem of finding a replacement for the injured Steve Cauthen on Sheikh Mohammed's triple Oaks winner.

The reigning champion

jockey, who was concussed in a fall at Goodwood on Friday, has been detained in St Richard's Hospital, Chichester, for a further night and a decision about his discharge will be taken today.

Facing the prospect of three weeks without his stable jockey at this crucial stage of the campaign, Cecil said: "It shouldn't be too serious and we're still working things out. There is a question mark hanging over who will ride Diminuendo."

Pat Eddery is Cecil's No 1 choice for this coveted mount. But the champion jockey elect may well be required to partner Assatis for Khaled Abdullah and Guy Harwood.

The availability of Walter Swinburn will depend upon the participation of Saturday's March Stakes winner, Zaffaran, who, like Diminuendo, is owned by Sheikh Mohammed.

Michael Roberts is also being considered. He has already been booked for Indian Skimmer in next Sunday's big

race in Dublin, the Phoenix Champion Stakes.

Saturday's March Stakes at Goodwood saw game performances by two fast improving three-year-olds, with Zaffaran holding Mazzacano by three-quarters of a length.

Both the first and second may go to Doncaster. "I'd like to run him in the Leger, particularly if the going is fast," said Michael Stoute. Harwood said that Mazzacano will probably be joined in the line-up by Assatis.

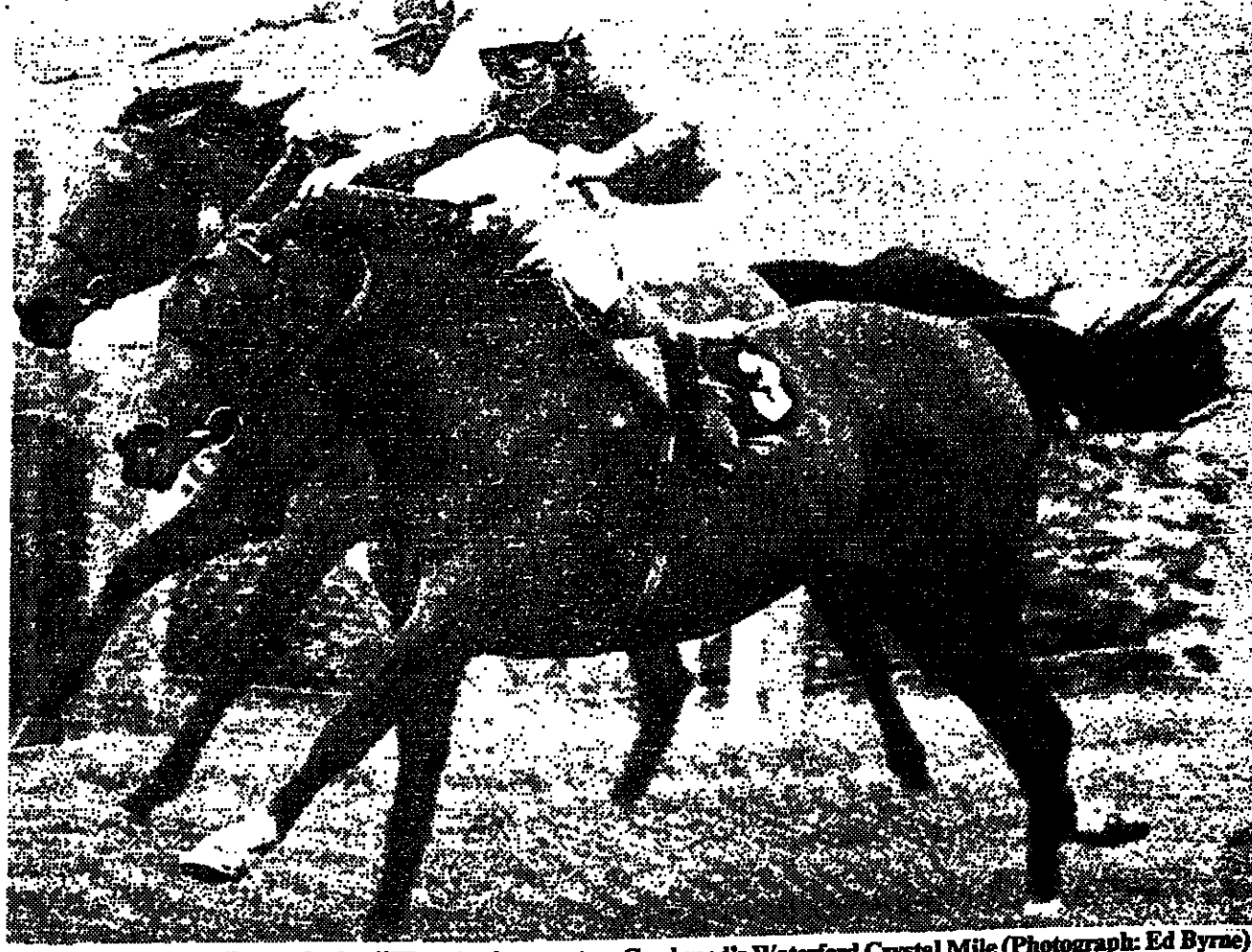
Stoute had no further news about the future of his partner with Swinburn. Despite Di Swinburn's efforts on Doyoun in the Waterford Crystal Mile, the 2,000 Guineas winner could finish only third behind the enterprisingly ridden Prince Rupert.

The 16-1 victory of the Barry Hills-trained four-year-old constituted one of the major turn-ups of the season. And Prince Rupert's running here was a turnaround of over seven lengths with his performance behind Warming in the Sussex Stakes.

The fitting of blinkers for the first time certainly put fire into Prince Rupert's belly, as after making the running, the four-year-old quickened twice, first to repel the challenge of the three-year-olds, Doyoun and Magic of Life, and then to ward off the late attack of Then Again.

"Prince Rupert has always been a good horse, but he hasn't been quite right and has been playing about a bit," said Hills. "We galloped him over four furlongs in blinkers. I chased him up on my back and he certainly seemed to go all right. We're lucky still to have him as he was sold to go to the United States six weeks ago."

The trainer also said that Glacial Storm, who disappointed behind Mito at Ascot after finishing second in the Derby and third in the Irish equivalent, runs at Kempton on Friday for the September Stakes en route to a second attempt to repeat Rheingold's 1973 win in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe for the trainer.



The blinkered Prince Rupert fends off Then Again to capture Goodwood's Waterford Crystal Mile (Photograph: Ed Byrne)

WOLVERHAMPTON

Selections

By Mandarin

2.0 Champion Girl, 2.30 Jussica, 3.0 Slangi Vah, 3.30 Pappa, 4.0 Milford Quay, 4.30 Dwaie, 5.0 Navajo.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.0 Arc Lamp, 2.30 Anna May Wong, 3.0 Chantico, 3.30 Pappa, 4.0 Ben's Birdie, 4.30 Jopani, 5.0 Miss Rossetti.

Going: good Draw: 5f, high numbers best

2.0 EBF ASTON MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £1,856: 5f) (17 runners)

1 020 AMIGO MENOR 14 (M) K M Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
2 040 ARC LAMP 20 (M) Mrs M Macaulay 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
3 050 BALUBAY 16 (M) Mrs M Macaulay 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
4 060 DANCING BLADE 5 (M) W A O'Connell 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
5 070 DEE JAY 8 (M) P Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
6 080 DOCTORS' TIME 10 (M) P Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
7 090 GORDON STAKES 10 (M) P Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
8 100 MAZAZA 20 (M) P Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
9 110 RAYVEN 10 (M) P Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
10 120 SINGING STAR 5 (M) P Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
11 130 THOMAS 10 (M) P Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
12 140 TOWN 10 (M) P Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
13 150 CHAMPION GIRL 10 (M) P Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
14 160 SUGAR BOB 10 (M) P Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
15 170 T-1 CHANCE 20 (M) P Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
16 180 DANCING BLADE 5 (M) P Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12
17 190 ARC LAMP 20 (M) P Bracey 9-0 A Tebbell (7) 12

5-2 Dancin' Blade, 3-1 Mazza, 4-1 Arc Lamp, 7-1 T Chance, 10-1 Sugar Bob, 12-1 Champion Girl, 16-1 others.

2.30 SPINNEY SELLING NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £536: 7f) (13)

5 540E YOUNG SHAVIER 12 (M) M Tompkins 9-7
7 330A ANNA MAY WONG 23 (M) A Bailey 9-2
8 340A GAY RUFFIAN 30 (M) H Jones 9-2
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270 2640 SPINNEY SELLING NURSERY HANDICAP 23

Caddie keeps watch as Ballesteros applies glossy finish

From Mitchell Platt
Golf Correspondent
Frankfurt

Severiano Ballesteros yesterday won the German Open in spectacular style when he overcame the opposition with a nine-under-par final round of 62, which equalled the record for the Frankfurt course.

There are times when it appears that Ballesteros could walk on water. This was one of them and so Gordon Brand Jr, who started out three shots ahead of the Spaniard lost little in defeat as he completed a 70.

"That is as near perfect a round of golf as it is possible to play," Ballesteros said. "I played virtually every shot the way that I wanted and I did not have a five on the card which is always very satisfying."

In fact Ballesteros, out in 32 to Brand's 34, did not move alongside his rival until he holed in from 12 feet for a two at the 11th. Thereafter it was a contest although Brand contributed to his own downfall by taking six at the 13th where he drove into a fairway bunker.

Ballesteros elected at that moment to move into overdrive. He picked up five shots on par over the last five holes which included an eagle three at the 17th where he holed from 40 feet.

Card of the course

Hole	Yds	Par	Hole	Yds	Par
1	427	4	11	175	4
2	465	4	12	407	4
3	547	5	13	387	4
4	547	5	14	387	4
5	547	5	15	475	5
6	418	4	16	475	5
7	430	4	17	475	5
8	430	4	18	475	5
9	430	4	19	475	5
10	430	4	20	475	5

Out 34-35 55 in 39-14 30

Total yardage: 6,749 Par 71

So when he coaxed home another putt of 18 feet for a birdie on the 18th green it gave him his third successive triumph in Europe, following his wins in the Open Championship and the Scandinavian Open with a 21-under-par aggregate of 263.

That last putt also won for his caddie, Ian Wright, a Rolex watch worth £5,000. Ballesteros explained that on the last green Wright had informed him that if he made the putt then he would win the watch for carding the best round of the tournament.

Ballesteros said: "Ian told me that he could do with a new watch himself. I told him to read the putt and if I holed it then he could have the watch. He read it on the left, I hit it there and it went in. I don't need another Rolex."

Ballesteros has now consolidated his position at the top of the Order of Merit. Brand courageously held on to second place by one shot ahead of Bill Longmuir (64) and the Australian, Mike

Clayton (65). For Longmuir it was a remarkable result considering he had missed 14 halfway cuts in 19 tournaments this season. He was placed 122nd in the Order of Merit with winnings of £8,356 before the tournament told he was rewarded for his persistence with a cheque of £15,956.

Elsewhere Colin Montgomerie completed the transition in nine months from Scottish Amateur International to a member of Scotland's team for the Dunhill Cup at St Andrews in April by compiling a final round of 70 for a share of 25th place on 275. That enabled Montgomerie, aged 25, a former Walker Cup player, to overtake Sam Torrance in the Order of Merit and win a place alongside Sandy Lyle and Brand Jr.

FINAL ROUND SCORES: (GB and Ireland unless stated): 263: S Ballesteros (ESP), 68, 65, 62, 62; G Brand Jr (USA), 68, 62, 68, 62; W Longmuir (AUS), 67, 67, 64; M Clayton (AUS), 68, 68, 68, 65; 270: M Wright (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; D Smyth (GB), 69, 69, 67; C Mason (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 271: J Wright (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 272: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 273: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 274: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 275: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 276: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 277: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 278: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 279: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 280: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 281: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 282: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 283: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 284: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 285: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 286: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 287: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 288: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 289: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 290: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 291: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 292: S Lyle (GB), 67, 67, 67, 67; 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Bleak views of ITV chief

By Peter Ball

Edinburgh Television Festival's first-ever discussion on sport's place in the medium yesterday threw a bucket of cold water over many of sport's most cherished beliefs if the contributions of Michael Grade, head of Channel 4, and Greg Dyke, the chairman of ITV sport, were representative of the present mood.

While Grade was expressing his opposition to sponsorship and detailing its effect on sport's popularity, Dyke was offering an even more uncompromising view of sport's future on the ITV network.

Dyke left his listeners in no doubt that his move to take over the ITV sports committee, which was fuelled by his unwillingness as controller of programmes at LWT to schedule much of the sport arranged by the sports professionals, marked a major change in ITV's approach.

Dyke agreed that he had "paid \$5 million more than football merited in order to prevent BSB scheduling 42 League games a season which might persuade people to buy a dish." He dispelled any ideas among the sporting fraternity that that set a new price range for sports generally.

"There are very few sports events guaranteed major audiences," Dyke said. "On the whole there will be a few major individual events which people will pay big money for but the danger is that all other sports will think that this marks a new income for them."

Even the sports that can expect to continue to draw in big fees will have to learn that he who pays the piper calls the tune. "To run the Derby at 3 on a Wednesday afternoon is ridiculous," the iconoclastic Dyke insisted. "If you run it at 7pm on Wednesday you would get a massive audience."

His message to less popular sports was equally stark. "We have been criticised by Raman Subba Row for not showing interest in cricket. Who wants cricket? Nobody watches it on BBC2. It's got no audience. Cricket are lucky to get what they do from BBC, and if they want to keep on going on television, let them buy their own satellite, start their own channel and see if anyone buys a dish."

Obliquely criticising ITV's past approach under John Bromley, ITV head of sport, Dyke described TV sport as "the last totally uncontrolled area of television". He went on to accuse the sports departments of "refusing to accept any criticism."

He demanded: "Why are we showing these sports? They are there because someone paid money for them in the past. By the end of the year we will be out of bowls - now there's a good television sport watching grass grow - gymnastics, darts, and wrestling because they don't deliver the audiences."

Coe finds his form at last

By Stephen Downes

On the last day for athletes to set performances which could be considered for Olympic selection, Sebastian Coe yesterday ran 800 metres in 1min 43.93sec at a meeting in Koblenz, West Germany, making him the fifth fastest man in the world this year, while two of the men who have run fractionally quicker - Steve Cram and Said Aouita - put impressive finishing touches to their preparations for Seoul at the McVitie's Challenge at Crystal Palace.

Coe's run may prove to be too late to change the minds of the selectors, who met last night to finalise the team, although if he wanted a straw at which to grasp, it could be provided by the minor hamstring injury which was enough to dissuade Tom McKean from racing yesterday.

In Koblenz, Coe was second to José-Luis Barbosa, of Brazil, who was timed at 1min 43.43sec. But Coe, twice the Olympic 1,500 metres champion, showed form which was more recognisable as the sort which won him four Olympic medals. If anything, it was Coe's lack of racing recently which let him down, as he could not match the Brazilian in the run-in.

At Crystal Palace, Cram and Aouita were also matched. Cram knocked 2.46sec off the UK all-comers' record in outkicking Peter Elliott down the home straight of the 2,000 metres; Aouita's class took him to victory in the 1,000 metres, so extending his unbeaten sequence in flat races to 60. They will be racing again in Rieti, Italy, on Wednesday, Cram over 1,000 metres, Aouita probably at 1,500 metres. Coe is also likely to appear at the track where he set his 800 metres world record seven years ago, and if he chooses to again run that distance then he will find himself matched against Elliott.

Cram echoed the sentiments of many competitors at the last domestic meeting of the season when he said: "Racing at Crystal Palace on a Sunday afternoon when the

weather is not so good - I did wonder whether I ought to run at all."

For Tessa Sanderson there was no question that she both needed and wanted competition. After injury kept her out of the Olympic trials, Sanderson has found that invitations to overseas meetings have dried up, so she threw yesterday against Fatima Whitbread, who was also making a return after injury.

Whitbread ended her 1988 losing sequence against Sanderson with a "pleasing, but not satisfactory" 69.40 metres that gave her some pain in her shoulder. Pain in Sanderson's injured Achilles tendon stopped her throwing after the third round - 69.06 metres - and she now hopes to compete in Rieti should she receive an invitation in time.

Elsewhere, though, there were all the signs of athletes with no intention of over-extending themselves unnecessarily. There were records, but in events like the women's 600 metres, usually a distance run only in training, and the 2,000 metres steeplechase. In fairness to Mark Rowland, his performance in that event, by following the fast pace set by Mark Smith, of the United States, offers some promise for Seoul; Rowland, recording 5min 19.86sec, a European best and less than 0.2sec outside the world best set on the same track two years ago by Samson Obwocha, of Kenya.

There was nothing contrived about Sally Gunnell's British record in the 400 metres hurdles. Running inside Sandra Farmer-Patrick, Gunnell at last found herself with someone to draw her all the way round in what was only her seventh attempt at the event. Farmer-Patrick faltered slightly before the final barrier, but she didn't fade as most people do, "according to Gunnell, whose consolation for finishing second in was record in as many weeks and fast enough to make her admit: "For the first time I actually felt sick after that race."



Power to her elbow: Whitbread proving her fitness yesterday (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Marathon problems mount

Britain's marathon team for the Olympic Games will be without its most consistent performers in Seoul following the withdrawal at the weekend of Hugh Jones (David Powell writes). Jones notified the Athletics Federation of England that he was withdrawing from the team because of a shoulder injury which would prevent him from competing. A replacement was being discussed last night.

The women's marathon

line-up was also on the agenda as the British Amateur Athletic Board met at Crystal Palace to finalise its team and an announcement is expected today. The withdrawal of the original choice, Priscilla Welch, the national record holder who was sixth in the 1984 Olympics, and Ann Ford, and their replacements, Veronica Marot and Paula Fudge, had reduced the team

of three to one, Susan Tooby. Dave Long, the Coventry athlete whose first marathon as a runner five years ago took him more than three hours to complete, and Steve Jones, the former holder of the world best, were the names being considered to replace Hugh Jones. Sue Crehan, of Sale, and Jane Shields, of Sheffield, were possible additions to the women's team.

League inquiry follows false start to season

By Dennis Signy

The Football League will hold an immediate inquiry into the circumstances leading to Tottenham Hotspur calling off their opening home fixture against Coventry six hours before the scheduled kick-off.

Although the decision was taken, on the advice of the police and a local authority officer, on safety grounds, the League is expected to fine Tottenham heavily for delaying the announcement. It has been noted that the second division fixture between Swindon and Crystal Palace was called off a fortnight ago, also because of safety considerations. A crowd in excess of 30,000 was expected at White Hart Lane for the home debut of Paul Gascoigne.

Andy Williamson, a League spokesman, said: "This does nothing for the credibility of football. We were given the clear impression that work would be carried out overnight so the match could go ahead. This is not the right way to start a season."

The Coventry chairman, John Poynton, also criticised Spurs, describing their action as "incomprehensible". Poynton said: "How a club can go through the whole of the close season and right up to nine a.m. on the day of the match before informing us they had no safety certificate is incredible. They disappointed not only their fans but ours as well. Spurs were one of the so-called super five clubs but it seems they can't put their house in order."

The Federation of Football Supporters also condemned the postponement. A spokeswoman, Monica Hartland, said the federation was appalled.

Irving Scholar, the Tottenham chairman, pointed out yesterday that the work at the ground began in June and related only to essential safety measures rather than the installation of executive boxes planned to replace terracing. Tottenham, in fact, have yet to

Gestures draws attention

Bobby Campbell, the Chelsea manager, will talk to Joe McLaughlin, the club captain, today, following an incident on Saturday, in which the player gestured at the crowd during the last stages of the 2-1 home defeat by Blackburn Rovers (Dennis Signy writes).

Campbell said: "I will have further talks with Joe about the situation." The issue could effect the captaincy. If McLaughlin is deposed, Graham Roberts, who joined Chelsea from Rangers in the summer, is a possible replacement.

Scholar said the builders had been working "round the clock" and when he left White Hart Lane at 8.30 p.m. on Friday, he was assured that safety work was complete and the debris would be cleared in time for the game to go ahead.

Tottenham hope the match can be played on September 7, three days before their game against Arsenal. Tickets will be valid for the new date or money will be refunded. The decision to call off the match was taken in time to prevent the Coventry team travelling to London, and John Sillett, the Coventry manager, gave his players the day off. Terry Venables, the Tottenham manager, left his players to train and went to the Midlands to watch Aston Villa play Millwall.

Arsenal, who asked the League for an away fixture to start their season because of building work at Highbury, are certain that Saturday's home game against Aston Villa can go ahead.

Stonewalling Gooch denied support

By Alan Lee

Graham Gooch's immediate future remained in doubt last night as a decision on England's captain in India this winter was again postponed.

Gooch is widely being blamed for the delay and facing accusations ranging from dithering to deviousness. If some of the criticism is justified, much of it is unfair. Gooch has not endeared himself to the general cricket public by his apparent reluctance to commit himself to touring.

Now there are those who believe he is effectively blackmailing the selectors by declining to state his availability unless or until they offer him the captaincy, a job some people are under the impression he has already re-

jected once this summer. Gooch was also linked, a week ago, with another clandestine scheme to attract England stars to a private tournament in South Africa. Given his leading role in the rebel tour of 1982, people are inclined to think the worst of Gooch's motives whenever South Africa is mentioned.

All things considered, Gooch is coming out of this saga thoroughly badly. His public silence is being taken as a mute plea of guilty by the detractors who are offended by his way of doing things and antagonised by his failure to communicate. Perhaps one or two misapprehensions should now be exposed.

Point one is that Gooch was not approached, either about the captaincy or his touring availability when the sacking

of Mike Gatting, and then John Emburey, caused the selectors some of their worst dilemmas of a dreadful year. He did not turn it down, neither would he have done so.

Point two is that Gooch's involvement with the projected South African tournament is tenuous at best. He was asked, by another English player, whether he would go. His answer was that his winter plans remained uncertain but that if he was to tour India with England, any such venture would be ruled out. With the Indian Government reportedly hardening its line on the issue, he is not so insensitive as that.

The final point concerns the events of the past week, when Gooch has been leading England in what passes for a Test match while the rumours have

flown around him. He has been upset by some newspaper reports that he has snubbed England and mystified by others which reveal he has been offered the tour captaincy. Neither is true.

Gooch has told the selectors his position. He did so several days ago. He is available to continue as captain in India, if required. Gooch has stonewalled all subsequent outside inquiries for the simple reason that he does not consider it his business to discuss the matter.

More puzzling and damaging is the selectors' prevarications. They have known the declared runners for the captaincy stakes for some time, yet they have declined to reveal them, much less reach a decision. Micky Stewart, the team manager, was berated by sections of the media on

Saturday evening for the lack of information coming out of the selectors' room.

Their discussions have not been helped by one of their number, Phillip Sharpe, being taken ill with suspected pneumonia and admitted to hospital, but in my view the lack of public relations is another indictment of an antiquated committee system. With a strong manager in overall charge, none of this should have happened.

It may well be that Gooch is not a long-term prospect as England captain. His tactics can sometimes be seen as stereotyped, his reserved public front exasperating. For all that, he may still be the best way out of a mess for which he should not have to take all the blame.

Test report and other cricket, page 28

Lyle within reach of the leaders

Akron, Ohio (Reuters) - Ian Baker-Finch, of Australia, and the American, Mike Reid, stumbled at the finish and dropped back into a tie with Larry Nelson for the third-round lead in the World Series of Golf tournament with totals of four-under-par 206.

Sandy Lyle was within reach of the leaders a stroke further back alongside Tom Watson and Mark McCumber.

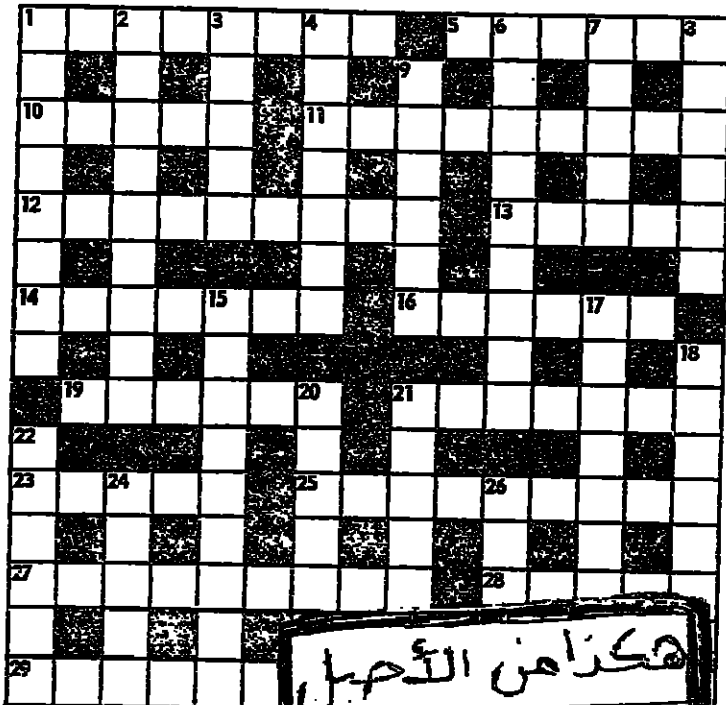
Lyle was extremely disappointed with his play. He reached six under par after eight holes, but dropped two shots to par at the ninth and then played the incoming nine in a one-over-par 36 for a 71. "Maybe I went at the course too aggressively," he said.

"But I played much better than I scored. I had a few bad breaks, and they were very costly." A bogey at the 18th cost him a chance to share the lead.

Baker-Finch took the early lead at eight under par after birdies on three of the first eight holes, but he slipped under four bogeys over the last 10 to finish with a 71. Reid moved into the lead at seven under par after birdies at the 12th and 13th holes, but dropped three shots in the last five holes to finish on 71.

LEADING THREE ROUND SCORES (US unless stated): 1. Baker-Finch, 68, 67, 71; 2. Reid, 68, 67, 71; 3. Nelson, 70, 70, 68; 4. Lyle, 68, 68, 67; 5. Watson, 71, 68, 69; 6. McCumber, 70, 69, 69; 7. Brown, 68, 77, 75; 8. P. Way, 77, 70, 74.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 17,760



ACROSS

- Put money in to settle account for programme of entertainment ... (8).
- ... and put paid to drink (6).
- Girl's letter from Greece, "Send back our Times" (5).
- Secure post that gives cover against personal injury (5,4).
- Minimal effort attributable to Workers Act (5,4).
- Spout has no value (5).
- Set out to annoy with fruitless result (7).
- Occasion to see red and green - a funny mixture (6).
- No sign of stress, but requiring pick-me-up (6).
- Heather follows mother back across the Atlantic (7).
- Go into business without using force (5).
- Went down middle of road with dangerous beginner (9).
- Two scholars in reform school, perhaps (4,5).
- Bottled spirit (5).
- Doctor got up - on the wrong side of the bed? (6).
- English directions to the German father (8).

DOWN

- A grip for a shopping item (8).
- Sailors in a spot getting decoration (9).
- It's a metal club that's been stolen (5).
- Talk in City square an attraction? Quite the reverse (7).
- A hundred attending instruction is a crowd (9).
- First class art in reconstruction of Crown jewels (5).
- Two little boys walked unsteadily (6).
- Brave man on board surmounting extremes of exposure (6).
- Fool may be amusing or awful (9).
- Let design run wild - it showed sparkle (9).
- Painter not noted for seascapes perhaps (8).
- "When beggars die there are no seers" (J. Caesar) (6).
- Dog by Rodin an aberration (7).
- Keep quiet - don't allow a breeze (6).
- Row in which many watch, maybe (5).
- A bad sport (5).

Concise Crossword, page 14

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

GLOSSOLALIA

- Foot and nose disease
- Speaking with tongues
- Study of the tongue

THEROID

- Beastly
- A gland in the larynx
- A fat-soluble compound

ROSINIARINE

- A sea herb
- A sea hair
- The walrus

COMMISSURE

- An intestine
- Military catering
- The perpetration of a crime

Answers on page 16

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 17,759 will appear next Saturday

WEATHER

Western Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, north-west and south-west England will have a showery day with sunny intervals. Eastern Scotland and eastern parts of northern England will be brighter. The Midlands, East Anglia, central, southern and south-east England will be dry with sunshine except for a few late-morning showers. Outlook: showers and heavier rain spreading east.

ABROAD

MIDDAY	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th	28th	29th	30th	31st
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